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ON

British Administration

IN INDIA,

CONSISTING OF

VARIOUS EVENTS AND INNOVATIONS.

BY

BOWMANJEE CURSETJEE COWASJEE

BANDOOPWALLA.

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TO

His Excellency the Right Honorable

LORD LYTTON,

Viceroy and Governor-General of India,

THIS HISTORY

ON BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

By His Lordship's most obedient Servant,

BOWMANJEE CURSETJEE

BANDOOPWALLA.

Pro Bono Publico.

In tendering this Book gratuitously to the Public, the Author humbly hopes that his labours in endeavouring to place within the reach of mankind a knowledge of things which perhaps have never yet been thought of by them, will be generously appreciated.

MEMORANDUM.

EMINENT MEN OF ANCIENT TIMES.

Invasion of India by Sesostris, Semiramis, Darius, Hystaspes, and Alexander the Great.

First British Ambassador that landed in India.—Sir Thomas Roe.

Distinguished Generals and Governor-Generals in Mediæval India.

Lord Clive, Lawrence, Howell, Vansittart, Verelst, Sir Robert Fletcher, Lord Pigott, Clavering, Sir Eyre Coote, Elijah Impey, Lord Macartney, Dundas, Macpherson, Cornwallis, Warren Hastings, Sir John Shore, Earl of Mornington, Marquis Wellesley, Lake, Sir George Barlow, Lord W. Bentinck, John Cradock, Lord Minto, Canning, Sir David Ouchterlony, Thomas Munro, Earl Amherst, Sir Charles Metcalf, Lord Heytesbury, Earl Auckland, Pollock,

Earl Ellenborough, Henry Hardinge, Earl of Dalhousie, Sir Henry Barnard, Wilson, Sir Colin Campbell, Havelock, and Outram.

Two of the above were in India before—
I mean the renowned Sir John Shore,
And his predecessor Mr. Warren Hastings,
Who, it is said, had spoilt all things,
When he was in the Administrative Bill,
Returned, after his trial, on a double heel,
As Governor-General (Marquis) Hastings,
To repair his spoilt proceedings ! ! !

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ON BRITISH ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA.

INTRODUCTION.

The British Administration in India is one of the noblest subjects for human attention. The history of this great Eastern Empire comprises several centuries back, running up from the present modern age to the former ancient times.

The comparison of these I have deemed a subject most worthy of attention. My sole aim is to produce a concise, plain narrative founded upon facts, and to avoid prolixity as much as possible in order to make it convenient to readers. In doing so, however, I shall not abate that warm zeal due to the noble narrative I have undertaken to write upon. The British dominion in India has gradually risen, and grown great in this Eastern Empire, by strict observance of order,

close adherence to, and confidence in, its rulers ; by preserving the spirit of Government while the method of governing underwent changes ; and adopting all necessary improvements for the welfare of its subjects with the most indefatigable industry and perseverance in order to effect subjugation.

I shall quote the most noted periods in history for my guide in offering up my observations and remarks, such as are strictly true, corresponding with the times I speak of ; and I may safely hope that what I state will incline the mind to matters so genial to us, and so pressing upon our attention, for the welfare and prosperity of our country, self-preservation, and society.

Minus juvat Gloria lata quam magna.

AN INTRODUCTIVE APOLOGY.

Gentle Reader, I beseech you, pause and ponder as *you* go on
Reading this humble but true production,
And make allowance for the style.
This history I have endeavoured to compile,
For *your* welfare, and *that* of society,
The country we live in, and its prosperity!

B. C.

CHAPTER I.

On Historical Worth.

Witness, you powers, what fancied importance
Sits perched upon my quill as I am writing!

AMONG the ancients as well as the moderns, many writers, invited by the manifest utility of the design, have sought upon comments and comparisons with the ancient and the modern times—the rules and government, and the various changes which had been wrought during the process of time; but failing, through great and unforeseen difficulties, in the undertaking, the barrenness of events in the early period of history, and the fertility of later times, they fell into embarrassments, and left the task only half done.

In recounting the transactions of remote antiquity, there is, indeed, such a deficiency of materials, that the desire of mankind to

supply the chasm has given birth to various conjectures; so that the further we look into these distant periods, the more obscure everything becomes, and we are at length lost in a sort of prospective diminution, such that the mind is no longer able to discern what fancy undertook to form. Hence, to avoid redundancies of the kind described, I have endeavoured to confine my narrative within all possible conciseness, relating and giving reference to such facts only as could maintain and speak for themselves.

> We have all an equal right to
> Our own opinion, as we are
> All naturally equals.

In some cases, history may be rendered tedious from want of a thorough knowledge of facts; in others, from too great a knowledge of facts not worthy of notice.

I have retrenched these excesses in my historical account, and steered between them judiciously, in order to give every noted fact its full scope, and every object its due proportion.

Every year that is added to the age of

the world, undoubtedly serves to lengthen the thread of its history.

The ancients have represented history under the figure of a woman—easy, graceful, and inviting ; but we have seen her in our days converted, like the virgin of Nabis, into an instrument of torture.

CHAPTER II.

On Literature, Laws, and Government.

AMONG the number of authors who undertook the laborious task of giving an account of British India—its administration, rules, and government from its earliest times—is Henry Beveridge. In his works there are many useful monuments of reason wrought out by a laborious train of close study and application to the times, which perpetuate the memory of things worthy of being transmitted to posterity.

Eminent men have lived in all ages, and figured in every condition of life ; the excellence of their talent has acquired fame, and given them a claim to distinction.

> The labour of an industrious author to explore facts
> Deserves more lasting praise than the conqueror of combats !

This eminent writer has, no doubt, gilded

his name, and gained the applause of his countrymen.

From the whole of his work it appears that he understood the original affairs of British India much more clearly, and in a more comprehensive manner, than even the present age, enlightened, as it is, with so many later discoveries to boast of. It is a pleasure, indeed, to observe the easy style of his writing, accompanied with all the necessary illustrations.

In his history he describes matters, in a manner, to compare perfections of a more permanent kind that is to follow each succeeding year of the British reign in India—all which have happily succeeded from the ancient, and been fully realized up to the present, times—with only the difference in the laws, and management of affairs in some branches, that makes the present times hard indeed for the poor, that they might justly say that monarchy is the best Government for the poor to live under, while a commonwealth might be preferred by the rich. Indeed, the number

of penal laws now in India has contributed to do a deal more mischief than good, comparatively speaking.

It is hard to say whether it is owing to the licentiousness of the people, or to these laws, that India should shew more convicts in a year than half the dominions of Europe. It may be owing to both, for they mutually produce each other. When, by indiscriminate penal laws, the nations behold the same punishment affixed to dissimilar degrees of guilt, from perceiving no distinction in the penalty the people are led to lose all sense of distinction in the crime, and this distinction is the bulwark of all morality: thus the multitude of laws produces new vices, and new vices call for fresh restraints.

It is among the citizens of a refined community that penal laws, which are in the hands of the rich, are laid upon the poor, and the Government, as it grows older, seems to acquire the moroseness of age.

The best and the most useful laws I have ever seen are generally practised in

Holland. When two men are determined to go to law with each other, they are first obliged to go before the reconciling judges, called the *peace-makers*. If the parties come attended with an advocate or a solicitor, he is obliged to retire. The peace-makers then begin advising the parties by assuring them that it is the height of folly to waste their substance, and make themselves mutually miserable, by having recourse to the tribunals of justice ; "follow but our direction," say they, "and we shall accommodate matters without any expense to either." If the rage of debate is too strong upon either party, they are remitted back for another day, in order that time may soften their tempers and produce a reconciliation. They are thus sent back twice or thrice ; if their folly happens to be incurable, they are permitted to go to law, and, as we give up to amputation such members as cannot be cured by art, justice is permitted to take its course.

It is unnecessary to make here lengthy declamations, or calculate what society would save, were this law adopted. I am sensible

that the man who advises any reformation, only serves to make himself ridiculous. "What!" mankind will be apt to say—"adopt the customs of countries that have not so much real liberty as our own! Our present customs, what are they to any man? We are very happy under them. This must be a very pleasant fellow who attempts to make us happier than we already are. Does he not know that abuses are the patrimony of a great part of the nation? Why deprive us of a malady by which such numbers find their account?" This, I must own, is an argument to which I have nothing to reply.

It were to be wished, then, *that power*, instead of contriving new laws to punish, instead of drawing hard the cords of society till a convulsion come to burst them, instead of cutting away wretches as useless before we have tried their utility, instead of converting correction into vengeance,—it were to be wished that we tried the restrictive arts of government, and made law the protector, rather than the tyrant, of the people.

CHAPTER III.

On diversities in the Administration—Indiscriminate Penal Laws—Success and Progress of Education—The Share Mania and its disastrous results.

THIS passive view on the British administration will, no doubt, serve to excite the interest of the British reader and all concerned, who are introduced to new scenes and new modes of social existence, with all the changes wrought by the course of time.

While India was placed under a kind of tutelage in its earlier times, those entrusted with its administration, instead of encouraging, systematically repressed, the public curiosity.

> While associated with each other,
> Why should we despise one another?

The administration of Warren Hastings was not such as had been anticipated at his

time, and did not serve to unite in its favor the suffrages of Mediæval India. But now, as that anomalous form of government is abolished, and the Queen, ruling India in her own name without any adventitious intervention, has called upon her loving subjects to unite with her in developing its resources, as one of the most effectual means of promoting the general welfare of all her dominions, will, in a great measure, ensure contentment, loyalty, and prosperity all around.

The greater bulk of the inhabitants of this Eastern Empire consists mainly of two classes—Mahomedans and Hindoos ; Parsees being comparatively few, and, taking their origin from the Persians, formed, by emigration into British India, a distinct body, and altogether a separate class of people, more enterprising, and more readily adapting themselves to European customs and habits, recognizing no other ruler than the British Sovereign as their own, towards whom their loyalty far surpasses that of all the aboriginal races.

Many other tribes have settled themselves

in British India, since the establishment of the British administration, as traders, or have sought shelter from foreign persecutions, and are now become part and parcel of the gross population.

The Mahomedans profess the religion of their Prophet Mahomet. The Hindoos outnumber the Mahomedans greatly, and represent a distinct race of people, consisting of different castes and tribes—followers of "Vedas"—all speaking different languages, and having dialects differing materially from each other, being for the most part under the government of their own faith, but still subject to the British administration.

The history of India, properly speaking, embraces three distinct periods—the Ancient, Mediæval, and Modern.

The ancient period, beginning with the earliest authentic accounts, extends to the establishment of a Mahomedan dynasty. The mediæval period terminates with the doubling of the Cape of Good Hope, and the discoveries of a continuous oceanic

route to the East. The modern period carries out the great many discoveries and changes introduced by the process of time, and continued down to the present age.

The latter forms the subject-matter of this history, relative to the British administration in India, and the various changes wrought by the times.

In tracing informations upon these, the most natural course that could be followed are the coincidents which the country itself is able to furnish, and I shall make these my guide in the following remarks.

Indeed, on comparing the two administrations that hitherto ruled India (with the exception of Ceylon, which has all along been under the sovereign rule)—the East India Company and Her Majesty's Government—the latter certainly deserves preference, founded, as it is, on the most liberal and solid basis, exclusive of what regards certain points of legislature, which, as at present, forms a matter of some discontent. Such are, the indiscriminate penal

laws, which tend, in a manner, to obstruct justice, oppress the people, and increase crimes rather than diminish them.

The law as at present is only for those who can afford it : and crimes have seemingly a license ! which is greatly supported by the number of pleaders, lawyers, and barristers filling the courts of justice. Yes, "justice" so called ! But the most glaring acts often escape without the least punishment, or even the power of detection, owing to the skill of the pleader marring the ends of justice, that very often the culprit escapes with impunity. This is certainly an evil, above all evils, very much to be deplored, and very necessary to be amended.

As to literature and all other educational arts and sciences, it must be gratefully acknowledged, the modern times have been most successful and liberal in their prompt progress. Though trade has, in a great measure, slackened, owing to the disaster wrought by the Share Mania in India in 1865, which caused a dreadful havoc

throughout India, snatching the coffers of the wealthy, and draining them to the very dregs.

The greatness of Bombay is, at present, only in its outward appearance, its grand buildings—but empty within !

That memorable year wrought a dreadful scourge in India that it is impossible to think of without a shudder, and remorse for the past ; through which many *great wealthy* merchants were totally ruined.

Ever since this severe crash in India, there has been little trade, slow speculation, and scanty means of forwarding business ; and few would venture to risk their fortune after this hard lesson.

CHAPTER IV.

On the system of electing Members for the Municipal Corporation for the Town of Bombay—and the result.

> High in authority, brief in understanding!
> Is an assumption enough to make even angels scorn.

The next subject, though not the least worthy of notice, is the present system of electing members for the Municipal Corporation, which is done on a principle the most disadvantageous and unprofitable to the State, the election depending entirely upon the number of votes, without any question as to property, &c.

Fellows of the University, who, properly speaking, have no right whatever to compete in this, are also allowed an equal privilege ; and hence it follows that the present state of affairs in the Municipal Corporation is the most deficient and unsatisfactory.

It might be asked, What good has the Town Council done for the town of Bombay during the last two years? Apparently nothing; they may have turned out a few peons from their situations, and appropriated the proceeds from this, in increasing the salaries of the Heads of Departments—but this amounts to the same thing. Moreover, they are in the habit of sanctioning illegal outlays, incurred by the Heads of Departments, without an enquiry—a strange method, indeed, of improving business! What good could be expected to emanate from such a procedure, and with such members for the Municipal Corporation? The answer is simple.

Persons nominated upon mere votes got up in their favor, without property, or any thing besides as a security, certainly would care little or nothing what they are doing—but the blame lies on the electors. It is clearly necessary that, in electing such members, the welfare of the people should be considered: and this is done by electing proper persons; those possessed of property, who have understanding, and would

appreciate the welfare of the country, are the only ones worthy of the appointment.

As the prosperity of a country depends, not on the abundance of its revenues, nor on the strength of its fortifications, nor on the beauty of its public buildings, but chiefly on the number of its cultivated citizens, its men of education, enlightenment, and character; here are to be found its true interest, its chief strength, its real power—and these undoubtedly are the kind of men required for the Municipal Corporation in a town.

But when men of partial education, brief experience, and mediocre ability—for example, His Highness the Maharajah Jewunprushad Narrain, of Benares, whom it has pleased the Viceroy to nominate a member of the Calcutta Legislative Council for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations,—when such men are elected to make laws for a country, we cannot expect much good to result.

These native nobles, though their greatness may entitle them to everything they

could desire, still, it is a well-known fact, have nothing in their mental worth to make anything worthy out of them.

CHAPTER V.

On Financial Administration in India.

THE present system of administering the finances of India is a matter that demands attention, the result of the system being a total misapplication of funds. The revenues that are raised, instead of being administered on well-defined and well-established principles of economy, we have nothing but a yearly succession of temporary efforts to meet ordinary requirements by extraordinary fiscal measures. In the midst of a period of profound peace and tranquillity, while India is in the enjoyment of immunity from political disquietude, such as it has never been her lot to enjoy, ever since the British power obtained a footing in India,—in the midst of such a period, the country seems still as if struggling betwixt insufficiency and discontent; which clearly shews that the financial

administration in India is not at present as it ought to be. Originally, the management of financial affairs was in the hands of a Corporation peculiarly interested in its successful management. Latterly, it was taken out of their hands and vested in Trustees, who, having little time to attend to it, and less inclination, made the management over to other Trustees, professing to hold *them* responsible. The result is, that there is no one really responsible.

Officials in India hold office for so short a time after reaching the posts where they take part in the government, that there is no prospect of their official life lasting long enough for them to see the result of their policy. Under such a state of things, there is an inherent tendency in human nature that cannot be resisted to tide over present difficulties, regardless of future consequences—

> **If England is to be a continual blessing to India**
> **And itself, this evil at the root must be eradicated !**

The financial administration in India at present is, in fact, a sort of patch-work—

a composite of different patterns and colours sewn together without any attempt at unity and design. We have Legislative Councils sitting in India, composed of men selected for their local knowledge. We have the Indian Law Commission, sitting in London to frame codes of laws, composed of eminent lawyers with great judicial experience. We have a Council of India, composed of officials who have distinguished themselves as statesmen and diplomatists, but most of whom knew India only as it was some twenty or thirty years ago, before the tide of recent progress had begun to flow. The consequence is, that enactments passed by the legislative bodies in India are liable to be vetoed in England. Codes of laws, drawn up with the greatest care and after the most diligent research and study by the Law Commissioners in England, are sent to India, and returned by the Legislative Council of Calcutta as not being adapted to the condition of the people. The Finance Minister has to arrange his Budget so as to satisfy two masters—the Local Government and the Home Government.

each having the power to veto his measures and disapprove his Budget. Such are the confusions at present attending the financial administration in India, and which is an essential point for the notice of Parliament.

It is Parliament alone that can modify the constitution of the Legislative Council and the Indian Council, because these Councils are the creation of an Act of Parliament. As it is necessary that the principles of the whole design of financial administration, or of its details, will have always, more or less, to be settled and controlled by the Indian Governments themselves, according to change of circumstances, —the best service, therefore, that Parliament can do on this head—and which Parliament alone can do—is to enquire, at certain reasonable intervals, how the Indian Governments have discharged their trust. This simple necessary control of the Great Parliament of the Empire will prevent many of those evils which freedom from a sense of responsibility induces, and thereby infuse into the administration all that care and forethought so necessary to its success.

CHAPTER VI.

On the Sepoy Mutiny in the year 1857.

THE Mutiny in India, occasioned by the revolt of the native troops, is another subject that requires attention. It undoubtedly shews that the string of public administration had been loose somewhere. The opinions of the time were various as to the cause that gave rise to such glaring infidelity and dastardly conduct on the part of the sepoys towards their own leaders, wherein

> **Disloyalty and treachery combined,**
> **Displayed mischiefs of every kind.**

True, crimes have been committed which it would have been crime to forgive. The heinousness of the guilt justified the severest penalty the law could award. Yet the generosity so congenial to the British character spared the villains, and they were admitted to an amnesty.

According to law, a deliberate outrage of the kind, perpetrated by a body of armed men against a Government, is by no means entitled to mitigation of punishment. But, could such who

> Once had swerved from allegiance,
> Again be admitted to confidence?

is a question hard to discuss, but it certainly renders the peace and protection of a country very unsafe with such traitors in it. And, as the axiom says, it is safer to let a thief out than to let him in. It would have been far more judicious to banish them for the whole term of their lives, and be rid of such monsters for ever.

In all human institutions a smaller evil is allowed to procure a greater good: as in politics, a province may be given away to secure a kingdom; in medicine, a limb may be lopped off to preserve the body. But, in matters of justice, the law is inflexible, and must be borne out, and not be infringed. A lenient policy where the guilt demands severity, though humane, tends greatly to encourage the commission of offence, and

would in the end be found to be a pernicious principle.

It becomes the British Government in a vastly spread empire like India, with so many castes and kinds to deal with, and so many influential rulers and princes surrounding it, to exercise the most rigid law, though upon judicious principles; to carry out order, and thus ensure peace, and suppress tyrannical acts so common with the East Indian native tribes, and bring the people to a permanent subjugation. And I believe they have been partly successful in this, yet much is still required to render it complete.

CHAPTER VII.

Improvements in various branches in Modern India.

FROM ancient we are now come to the modern times, with all the improvements wrought in it—such as the introduction of steam navigation, railways, electric telegraph, &c.

Since the overland route and railways have been opened in India, they have, in a great measure, facilitated the journey by sea and by land. And the people who were before averse to turn out of doors in the rainy season, are now glad to avail themselves of the railway for an excursion occasionally in this dull wet season of the year. The railway has, no doubt, contributed very much to the wealth of Bombay and other large towns, and has tended to facilitate the commerce of India to a very

great extent ; while the electric telegraph has expedited communication, and rendered it easy and quick. To these may be added the wonderful improvements made in the ghauts—the Thull Ghaut and the Bhore Ghaut—which had scarcely been anticipated in ancient times—but all which have been completed with the greatest labour and perseverance in modern times, as a specimen of European genius and industry to the Eastern Empire.

It is to Providence we are indebted for the many advantages we now derive from them, and so largely enjoy in this civilized country of the British administration.

Spinning and weaving companies have also been introduced by Europeans to the great advantage and profit of the proprietors and shareholders ; and a great many other innovations, tending in every way to improve the country, and render the people happy and contented in it. In spite of all oppositions and difficulties, the noble British nation have worked up the country to its present beauty and perfection, and established

every art and science. So that India may now justly boast of rivalling and being equal to any great country in Europe, if she does not surpass them—

The grandest monument in a civilized country
Are the improvements wrought by persevering industry!

Should there come a time when the depraved among us shall load the work of genius with discontent, and quarter their ingratitude with all the great good that has been done for them and their posterity; should there come a time when censure shall speak in storms, and praise be whispered in the breeze; should there come a time when the muse shall seldom be heard, except in plaintive elegy, as if she wept her own decline,—Alas! I say, should there ever come such a time, may succeeding generations plead for the honor of our noble British benefactors, and boldly maintain that such bears no resemblance to the present age! And no nation upon earth are parallel to the British, and what they have wrought.

CHAPTER VIII.

On the qualities of a Nation—Abnegation, and conscientious recognition of Duty.

It becomes a nation to be endowed with every solid virtue, and to be distinguished for untiring industry, order, and economy, as well as for patriotism, and a strong sense of duty towards their subjects; who love to see the country ruled with sound laws and moral institutions, whose people are worthy of their rank, and possess the highest degree of culture, devoting themselves to the service of the State, setting an example of patriotism, and studying to procure the influence legitimately their own. Here will be found an excellent administration with everything in its right place, and where the most admirable order

prevails in every branch of the social and political system.

Deeds of excellence, perseverance, and industry
Never fail to secure success and prosperity.

To maintain these desirable qualities in a State, it is equally necessary to study the qualifications of the men selected for responsible positions—who ought to have a well-balanced mind, ought to be strictly moral, possessing certain intellectual powers. Self-abnegation, conscientious recognition of duty, and a willingness to sacrifice personal interests to the loftier demands of the country, are the most commendable attributes in mankind, and an inherent quality of the British nation.

Some nations try to be of use to their people, while, at the same time, they despise them, and others because they love them. What a contrast! In the services rendered by the first, there is always something incomplete, rough, and contemptuous, that inspires neither confidence nor gratitude. The latter, guided by the dictates of reason and humanity, is something better. But happily *we* are under a Government

which we can faithfully confide in and look up to, like little children to a parent—a Government which is ever ready to support and forward all our interests in this social world, and to which we are indebted for the rise and progress we have made in society since the time of our ancestors, and for the liberty and happiness we enjoy under it.

In the memorable year 1856, when famine was raging in Calcutta, and the people were starving for want of subsistence, the Government took a most generous part, and spared no endeavours in raising funds to help the sufferers, and did all that could possibly have been done under the circumstances to relieve suffering humanity; and even the people of England contributed largely towards the relief of their suffering fellow-subjects in India. Such, indeed, are the acts of humanity displayed by our noble British Government on various occasions, that we cannot refer to it without dropping a tear of gratitude.

When India was brought to a crisis owing

to the Mutiny of 1857, and it was found necessary to tax the people of India,—in making this demand, however, the British policy was so considerate that a period of five years only was fixed for the Income Tax Act ; the ruling power carefully avoiding to press upon the subject further than the actual necessity of the case demanded.

The justice and urbanity of the British is such that in these qualities they can never be equalled ; and it is *this* that has justly won them the esteem, loyalty, and confidence of their subjects. India has ample cause to be content under the British administration, and Indians are proud to boast of having the noblest and most liberal of nations for their ruler and protector.

CHAPTER IX.

On Prince Albert, the late Prince Consort of England; and the National Spirit of the People.

PROMINENT among the variously gifted great men in different ages stands Albert, the late Prince Consort of England, who contributed by his life and example to shape the multiform character of England, who is still held in affectionate remembrance, and whose great deeds are regarded among the most cherished bequests of the past. He was the model of a truly noble life, and model for his people to form themselves by. His greatness was owing as much to his intellect, his skill, and his genius, as to his royalty, *his integrity*—in a word, his high controlling sense of duty. Towards his fellow-creatures he was ever a kind-hearted benefactor, a willing communicator, and an able leader in all works that contributed to

the well-being of his people, and the country he lived in.

> Thus closed his career of life and care,
> For his eternal reward! His only share!

Though he is now gone the way of all flesh, he has undoubtedly left a monument of his life behind him, a most worthy example for posterity, a continual stimulant and encouragement for those who have the soul to adopt it.

Nations, like individuals, derive support and strength from the feeling that they belong to an illustrious race, that they are the heirs of their greatness, and ought to be the perpetuators of their glory. It is of momentous importance that a nation should have a great past to look back upon. It steadies the life of the present, elevates and upholds it, and lightens and lifts it up, by the memory of the great deeds, the noble sufferings, and the valorous achievements of the men of old.

The life of nations, as of men, is a great treasury of experience from which issues social progress and improvements. Like

men, nations are purified and strengthened by trials. Some of the most glorious chapters in their history are those containing the record of the sufferings by means of which their character has been developed. Love of liberty and patriotic feeling may have done much, but trials and sufferings, nobly borne, more than all.

CHAPTER X.

On the cause that gave rise to the Sepoy Mutiny, and the Amnesty extended.

THE account given in history of the Sepoy Mutiny is various; but it is believed that disaffection was the general cause that give rise to it, from the impression that the cartridges they had to bite were greased with pig's fat. This is undoubtedly the real origin of the Mutiny. It was by this belief that the feelings of the Mahomedan sepoys were roused to such a pitch that they at once revolted in large numbers, committing depredations of all kinds, and gradually formed into an extensive body of armed rebels. They took refuge in foreign territories, under native chiefs and rulers of their own faith, some of whom gave them an asylum, and assisted them to carry on a regular war.

An attempt blinded by folly,
No power of reason could rally!

One, in particular, who took the most prominent part is the Begum of Oude, who, acting in the name of her son, whom she had induced the rebels to recognize as their sovereign, supplied them with all the requirements for battle. The British endeavoured to quell the disturbance by judicious means rather than by force of arms; but, failing in this, they were at length most reluctantly compelled to settle matters by the point of the bayonet; and it is well they did so.

The Royal amnesty, extended to the rebels upon conditions, closes with this most pathetic sentence :—

"When, by the blessing of Providence, "internal tranquillity shall be restored, it "is our earnest desire to stimulate the "peaceful industry of India, to promote "works of public utility and improvements, "and to administer its government for the "benefit of all our subjects therein. In "their prosperity will be our strength, in "their contentment our security, and in "their gratitude our best reward. And may "the God of all power grant to us, and to

" those in authority under us, strength to " carry out these our wishes for the good of " our people."

This excellent proclamation could hardly have failed to produce a strong impression, particularly on those who took part in the Mutiny merely because they imagined that it was destined to triumph, but who now, seeing its utter failure, must have been anxious to escape from the consequences ; and this would have been the immediate result had not these people been misled by their leaders, and encouraged by the native chiefs in whose territories they sought shelter, who, perceiving they had been guilty of atrocities which placed them beyond the reach of mercy, naturally employed every means in their power to throw discredit on the proclamation, and hurried their followers to desperation, and the very extreme of crimes, by pursuing their rebellious course of proceeding in open war against the Government they served for the protection of the country—an act that could not for a moment be tolerated, and allowed to escape unpunished.

Still the noble British rulers felt that it would be abhorrent to their feelings to inflict the extreme penalty which the law might strictly award upon all who had swerved from their allegiance, and accordingly proposed an amnesty upon the most liberal terms : which at length brought the Rebellion to a conclusion, but not before a good deal of fighting, killing, and shedding of blood, and the committal of the most cruel butchery ever heard of ; all which would only be aggravating circumstances, and exciting pain by a recapitulation in this history. And thus terminated the Sepoy Mutiny in 1858.

CHAPTER XI.

Ancient India compared with Modern India.

Let us now compare the India of former days with the India of the present day. We shall see how greatly they differ. At first it was the India of perpetual conquests. There is not one, out of the many who served in India during the first half of the century, who will not recollect that no period of ten years elapsed without some conquest or extension of dominion—which brought with it generally, as a consequence, peace to the country, which had been for a long time the theatre of more or less disorder and war, as well under the pressure of heavy taxations and tolls. These were the tumults and characteristics of an era we have passed, and they have been entirely done away with. We can now reflect with pleasure upon the good deeds of those eminent men who were, during *that time*, the

great actors in the history of India, and appreciate with admiration and gratitude their eminent qualities, and the good they have done these Eastern countries and its subjects—who have, by their valour, untired perseverance and industry, secured to us the peace and happiness we now permanently enjoy. What a material difference this makes from the olden times, when neither the lives of people nor their property were considered safe, even for one moment; when the people were as terrible as the laws, and both had to pull hard together, and the good English people in the midst with all their endeavours to cut the knots of discord, by the many improvements which had been made in almost every branch of administration. Let us mark well the difference that distinguishes India at the present day from the India of early youth, and we shall find that we are now a completely new generation of people in it—a people enlightened with English education, of habits and customs strongly allied to the British, their own fellow-subjects, and devoted to our Sovereign Queen with

every sense of loyalty, duty, and gratitude. And let us praise God for the blessings we now so abundantly enjoy under so noble a nation.

While bound by slavery and terror,
Who cut the cords asunder?
Echo!—The British!

CHAPTER XII.

On Public Works of Utility in India.

A just Government should be justly frugal
In all their plans of administration.

INDIA is now so far enlightened and informed in all matters connected with it, that it would be impossible to bring forward anything that would be very new or very interesting with regard to public works of utility in India ; but there are a few of the old facts which perhaps may be put in the new light of recent circumstances, which may afford some useful idea as to the course it would be desirable for those in authority, power of Government, or the power of capital, the power of labour, or the power of talent, to pursue.

Public works in European countries signify something very different from what they mean in these Indian countries. Still

every great work which serves any purpose of public utility must be regarded and treated as a public work, without attempting any minute definition. Thus we may use the term "public work" in the sense of all works constructed with funds *wholly* or *partly* derived *from public taxation*, or *from private funds*, for the use of which the public pays interest, either in money, or some *public right*, or some *practical* monopoly, which is conceded to those who provide the funds. Using this definition, it is useless attempting to discriminate between *remunerative* and *unremunerative* public works : an attempt of the kind could never give a clear definition of what a real remunerative public work means ; or rather, what work deserves to be classed with really useful public works.

Such works as forts and barracks, and other military works of the kind, might be classed remunerative. Yet, what would become of a Government or a State of civilized society, more especially in India, if they did not apply public funds profitably, and lay out capital wisely, to enable small

bodies of men by the aid of such works to protect the country ?

Such public works as harbours of refuge and light-houses, may, to a certain extent, be made remunerative by imposing tolls and light duties ; but still there are cases in which there is, and can be, no attempt to get any direct remuneration from them ; and it is to be doubted whether any such outlay of public money is clearly remunerative.

The most necessary requirements are ordinary roads and bridges ; for there is nothing so essential to the life of commerce as good internal communication, and yet none in which it is less desirable to look for direct remuneration in the shape of tolls.

Tolls in this country are almost become a thing of the past, but there is probably no means of making the people, who are benefited by a public work, pay for what is done them. Looking, therefore, to the difficulty of discriminating between the direct and indirect value of great public works, it is impossible to distinguish

between the *remunerative* and *unremunerative* public works ; we can only take them simply in the light of what the Government of a civilized country is bound to do for its subjects in the way of works intended for the benefit of those subjects ; and to consider them remunerative, or the contrary, according to their real public utility and necessity.

Taking *all in all*, however, it is clear that the administration of the public works in India at present, is a wasteful administration in comparison with that of former years; and the advantages to be derived from such is involved in great difficulties and confusion, fraught with uncertainties, attributable more to miscalculations and the power of foreseeing results, than any want of energy to promote the welfare of the State; and hence failures of the kind must be appreciated as a mere consequence.

CHAPTER XIII.

On the British Policy in making Assessments on Landed Property—and the Indulgences to the People.

A just Government in a civilized country
Studies the rights of their subjects as their own.

THERE is not a single thing under the sun in India on which the favor and generosity of the British Government does not shine in all its splendour.

Freedom is now general in all matters of traffic, trade, &c. Freedom in sale, freedom in purchase, free trade in land, free trade in articles, are established in order to advance the development of British India.

Tenure of land is fixed on the most liberal and advantageous terms, and every encouragement is extended to agricultural

labour, and the right of the meanest peasant is recognized among the most pressing questions of the day.

Those holding landed property subject to Government assessment, are at liberty to redeem the rent payable upon it to perpetuity ; and, if desirable, it is left to their option to convert it into freehold tenure. No additional tax is levied in respect to this, or any improvements made on the land by the proprietors.

There are three different modes of assessing the land tax in British India :—

1*st*, a perpetual settlement with the proprietors of land ; 2*nd*, a temporary settlement with the heads of villages ; and, 3*rd*, a definite settlement with each individual occupant or cultivator of the soil. But the acknowledged basis of every land-revenue settlement in India is the right of Government to a certain share of the gross produce of every inch of cultivated land. The share may be alienated entirely, or it may be commuted for a money payment under engagements more or less extended for a

series of years, or even for perpetuity ; but the ground-work of the land-revenue in India is the right of Government to a share of the gross produce of all cultivation.

Land is assessed with reference to the payments of former years, and to the actual state of the cultivation, and the season.

In every case where the welfare and prosperity of the people are concerned, it would not be exaggerating the generosity of the British Government to say that every due consideration and encouragement is extended to the people, and every measure adopted to facilitate the object in view ; that there is nothing in which we have any just cause for discontent or complaint ; everything ensures contentment, peace, and prosperity.

CHAPTER XIV.

On the British Courts—their Amalgamation, their Laws, and Justice.

UNIVERSAL benevolence was what first cemented society, wherein we are taught to consider the wants of mankind as our own, and this is what makes us a people at all.

While we lament the sorrows of suffering humanity, and the depravity of human nature, there appears a gleam of greatness that serves to relieve and comfort us ; when we come to look into the many great things wrought by the noble British for our protection and safety, we are at once consoled and made happy !

We look with admiration upon the superior talent and excellence of the British, and the virtues practised by them, in all of which they far excel other nations.

Whether it proceeds from superior opu-

lence that the British are more liberal, or whether, being possessed of all the greatness of life and power,—whatever their motive may be, they are not only most generous, but most judicious in following out their administration.

> In this torpid state of simplicity
> Could I commend the British liberality
> With ideas so faint?

The establishment of the courts of justice in the three sister presidencies in India—Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay—by the British, is a matter of considerable importance and universal benefit, especially to the natives of India, who, some time back, were quite destitute, and quite ignorant of that human redress which the British justice only could afford.

Each presidency has a Supreme Court of Judicature, with a Sudr Fouzdaree and Sudr Dewanee Adaulut, a Small Cause Court, a Police Court, and several Zilla or lower Courts, and a Legislative Council for the purpose of revising codes and framing laws.

Since the amalgamation of the two former courts, the Supreme Court is now called the High Court, and the Sudr Adaulut the Appellate Court, the decrees of the Lower Courts being subject to the confirmation of the Appellate Court—the whole having jurisdiction over criminal as well as civil matters. These Courts are ruled by sound British laws, and united on a most judicious principle, in order to administer justice with all the accuracy the power of investigation can possibly admit ; supported by learned counsels, composed of highly talented and experienced European lawyers, barristers, and native vakeels ; and a jury of nine.

The Small Cause Court is simply for deciding upon plaints for the recovery of unpaid debts, for which purpose it is vested with the power of issuing execution, and enforcing its own decrees and warrants ; and is entirely a civil court of justice, composed of three Judges, each taking his seat separately.

The Zilla Courts of each presidency have only power to carry out their decisions in ordi-

nary cases within their jurisdiction, leaving an appeal open to any one dissatisfied with their decisions. Beyond this, reference is usually made to the Appellate Court, and all capital sentences are subject to the confirmation of the Appellate Court. So that, however upright and just the decision of a Lower Court Judge may be, his power is limited, and he is of necessity forced to submit to the fiat of the superior Court he is under, and carry out the decree or sentence accordingly. In these cases very often the skill of a learned counsel mars the ends of justice, rendering the law almost obsolete.

O Law! thou soother of human afflictions,
To thee we fly in every calamity;
From thee the care-tried child of misery
Eagerly seeks for succour and liberty!

CHAPTER XV.

On Bombay in Modern Times.

Among the numerous improvements brought about during the British administration in India, the removal of the forts surrounding the city of Bombay, which had been built by the Portuguese in ancient times, is one of the most judicious and advantageous schemes hitherto planned and executed. According to the Articles of War, a city without a fort cannot be bombarded or plundered; moreover, instead of this clumsy fort, we have now beautiful buildings, and works of great utility, of equal advantage to the Government and to the people; and the economy studied by the Government in raising these buildings from the proceeds derived from the sale of the esplanade on the outskirts of the fort, is a most judicious arrangement, much to be admired and approved of; so also is the grand

structure of the buildings that have been erected, and are in the course of erection, such as Bombay never had before at the time of the Portuguese; and even the Town Hall and the Mint, which were once considered to be the grandest buildings in Bombay, do not equal them in beauty.

Modern Bombay has all the appearance of a beautiful city, equal to, if not better than, both her sister presidencies, Calcutta and Madras. Every succeeding year of the British administration has added some fresh improvement to it, which serves to amuse the idle, and relieve the attention of the industrious. Happy the man who excels in the pursuit in vogue, and whose genius seems adapted to the times in which he lives! How many do we see who might have excelled in arts and sciences, and who seem furnished with talent equal to the greatest discoveries, had the road not been already beaten by their predecessors, with nothing left for them except trifles to discover, while others of very moderate abilities become famous, because they happen to be first in the reigning pursuit!

It was never expected that such wonderful improvements would ever have been made in Bombay—at least, it was never anticipated in ancient times—never known —never thought of or understood ; all that is desirable has been wrought in modern times to great advantage ; which has beautified the city of Bombay in such measure, that the proudest nation in the world may justly admire the British genius and industry.

Ye subjects, and loyals, and all so true,
Come, unite in gratitude, so justly due,
To thy British Rulers !

CHAPTER XVI.

On all the Indian Rajahs and Chiefs—their Loyalty to the British—their Territories and People—and their doings, and all concerning them.

To master thoroughly the history of the several Indian Rajahs and Chiefs, to learn something about their territories and people, and to become acquainted with their doings and all concerning them, would necessitate special research, and much weary wading through ponderous volumes of dry, uninteresting details. Few engaged in active life, unless compelled by circumstances, possess either the leisure or the inclination to devote themselves to such a task. For the benefit of those whose ideas are vague on this subject, I have felt the necessity of supplying them with clearer ideas. To begin, therefore, I will take the Rajahs separately.

SINDIA.

His Highness the Maharajah Ali Jah Jyajee Rao Sindia, G.C.S.I., is the nearest, though a very distant, relative of the late Maharajah Jankajee Sindia, who died in 1843. The present Maharajah was then a boy eight years of age. The country he rules is the Gwalior State, of which the city of Gwalior is the seat of Government. Stretching a little southward from Agra, the Gwalior State forms an important portion of Central India ; it contains a population of 2½ millions of inhabitants, and a revenue of rather more than 93 lakhs of rupees. The length is 246 miles and the breadth 170 miles, and the area of the whole is 33,119 square miles ; that is to say, the Gwalior State is somewhat larger than Ireland. Sindia is a descendant and representative of the warlike Mahrattas who overran India a century ago, and established a formidable power under the Peishwa. Sindia and Holkar raised themselves into the position of principal leaders of the Mahratta armies during the reign of Bajee Rao, from 1720 to 1740. They held the

northern portion of the Peishwa's dominions, and owed allegiance to that usurper. The events that have followed since, formed the most important portion of the history of the British Government in India, and the Gwalior State is part of the final result of many wars and treaties. The Maharajah Sindia, who had the honor of receiving His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Gwalior, is now in his fortieth year, and has always been loyal to the British Government. In the Great Mutiny in 1857, the Gwalior Contingent mutinied, and the Political Agent was forced to quit Gwalior. In June 1858 the Maharajah was deserted by his troops on the approach of the rebels under Tantia Topee. He, and his Minister Dinkar Rao, were compelled to flee to Agra. On the 19th of June 1858 Gwalior was re-taken by Sir Hugh Rose's force, and the Maharajah was re-established in his palace. By the treaty of 1844 his army was limited to 6,000 cavalry, 3,000 infantry, and 200 gunners with 32 guns; but for his services during the Mutiny he was allowed to increase the strength of his infantry to 5,000, and his guns to 36.

THE BEGUM OF BHOPAL.

The Bhopal family was founded about 1720 by Dost Mahomed, an Affghan in the service of the celebrated Aurungzebe. The Bhopal State never was a large one; it is situated in Malwa, and embraces a territory 6,764 square miles in area,-or about the size of Saxony in Europe. Its population is about the same as that of the island of Bombay, 663,000 souls; and it has a revenue of 13¾ lakhs of rupees. After passing through the vicissitudes of the period of turmoil which made its influence felt in all the States of Central India, great and small, the State of Bhopal fell into the hands of the present reigning family, which was founded by Vizeer Mahomed, son of a former Nawab's cousin. He was unsuccessful in a rebellion against the power of the Minister, which he headed when a youth, and in which his father was killed. He afterwards returned to Bhopal as a soldier of fortune, and had many petty contests with the Mahrattas, and re-conquered most of the territories which had been lost to Bhopal. He died in 1816, and was succeeded by his second son,

Nuzzur Mahomed, who was the husband of Qoodsia Begum. The ancient lady that was in Bombay to pay her respects to the Viceroy, is the grandmother of the reigning Begum of Bhopal. Her Highness the present Begum, who recently married her Prime Minister, has become celebrated for her attainments; she has given proofs of her desire to make her government a blessing to her people, particularly by affording them every facility for obtaining a sound education. Her late mother, the famous Secunder Begum, went on a pilgrimage to Mecca in 1863, and on her return wrote an account of her travels. She died about two years ago, and her daughter succeeded her. The Bhopal force consists of 723 horse, 3,428 foot, and 73 guns with 223 artillerymen.

THE MAHARAJAH OF TRAVANCORE.

Travancore occupies the extreme south-west point of our peninsula, and the State of Travancore comprises an area of 6,653 square miles—about as large as the whole of the county of Yorkshire and Westmoreland.

The population is rather more than a million and a quarter, whilst the revenue is nearly 43 lakhs of rupees.

The military force of the country consists of 1,680 infantry, and 30 artillerymen with four guns. The Rajahs of Travancore have always been steadfast allies of the British, at one time giving great assistance when the famous Tippoo Sultan threatened the English power in the South of India.

Tippoo then attacked and devastated the Travancore territory, but was compelled by the treaty of 1792 to restore all that he had wrested from the Rajah. The reigning Rajah is His Highness Rama Owarma, who succeeded his brother in 1860. The laws of succession in this State are in the female line; thus, on the death of a Rajah, the sovereignty passes, not to his sons, who can in no case inherit, but to his own brothers, if he has any. Failing these, it passes to his sisters' sons, or to his sisters' daughters' sons, and so on. So that a Rajah of Travancore adopts a female as his heir, and not a male. The females so adopted are designated the

Tumbrattees, or Ranees of Attinjah, so called because Attinjah is the residence of the ladies of the family of Travancore. The mineral resources of Travancore are very scanty. Rice of excellent quality is produced, sagoo palm yields well, and the Rajah has been planting the mulberry with the view of producing silk on a large scale.

THE MAHARAJAH OF REWAH.

The history of the Rewah State is a very unimportant one.

The first treaty with Rewah was made by the British in 1812. The territory is of rather considerable dimension, covering 12,723 square miles, being rather larger than the kingdom of Belgium. Much of it is jungle or rocky, and the population is only 1,280,000 souls. The revenues are about 25 lakhs of rupees. According to native history, the present chief is the thirty-second Rajah. His name is Rugraj Singh, and he succeeded his father in 1834. Suttee was abolished by him in his dominions in 1847. For his services in 1857 the districts of Sohagpore and Amarkuntah were conferred in sove-

reignty on him. This prince has been guaranteed the right of adopting a successor. He has now no direct heirs, having lost three sons that were born to him. The Rewah State is part of the large group of States in Bundelcund, which province lies to the south of Jumna river, and adjoining on its south-west side the Gwalior States in Central India.

The Rewah territory, while its northern point runs up to within a short distance of the confluence at Allahabad, lies just south and east of the great highway between Bombay, the Central Provinces, and Hindostan proper. The Maharajah's capital is about 70 miles from Allahabad and 230 from Jubbulpore. Unmistakeable signs of valuable mineral resources appear in several parts of Rewah's dominion; but it does not appear that this prince has yet entered on any systematic efforts to ascertain what capital and exertions will be required in order to unearth his metallic deposits.

THE RAO OF KUTCH.

The Jharejas of Kutch—a semi-Rajpoot race—are said to be a branch of the Samma

tribe, and to have emigrated from Sindh in the fifteenth century. The title of Rao was conferred by the King of Ahmedabad about the year 1540 on the son of Jam Humeer, the rightful ruler, who had been murdered by his kinsman, and who succeeded in recovering his father's possessions by the help of the King of Ahmedabad. This title of Rao has been held ever since. The British Government first formed treaty relations with the Chief of Kutch in 1809. The British Government has been obliged to interfere two or three times in the management of the internal affairs of Kutch, owing to the violent conduct of some of the Bhyads, and the lawless state of the country. Infanticide was for a long time a very prevalent crime, and special provision was made for its suppression by treaty in 1819, and again in 1840, and renewed in 1846. Since then the crime has greatly diminished. The present ruler, Rao Shree Khengarjee, eleven years of age, succeeded his late father Pragmuljee, a very enlightened ruler, in December 1875. The population of Kutch is 409,000 souls, and the estimated area is

6,500 square miles, exclusive of the Runn of Kutch, which covers 9,000 square miles. The revenue amounts to 15 lakhs, of which about half belongs to the Chiefs and half to the State. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 1,86,949 to the British Government, which may be reduced to a minimum of Rs. 88,000 in the event of the reduction of the subsidiary force. Cotton is the chief product of Kutch, the soil of the most productive tracts being peculiarly favorable to the growth of this staple. The general character of the country is sterile, notwithstanding several fertile spots. The late Rao came to Bombay in 1875 to pay his respects to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but, being taken ill, he returned to Kutch, where he died in December 1875. Thus terminated the life of this native prince.

SIR SALAR JUNG, G.C.S.I.

Of the distinguished visitors that came to Bombay in October 1875 to welcome His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, none has attracted so much attention as Sir Salar Jung, the Prime Minister to His Highness the

Nizam, who is still a minor. A short account of his life may not be uninteresting. This truly distinguished and most worthy man is the nephew of the late Minister, and was born on the 2nd January 1829, so that he is in the forty-seventh year of his age. His title is—His Excellency the Nawab Soojah-ood-Dowlah, Mooktear-ool-Moolk Sir Salar Jung Bahadoor, G.C.S.I., but he is more familiarly known as the Nawab Saheb. His family name is Meer Tora Alee. The title of Salar Jung he received before holding his present office. The titles of Soojah-ood-Dowlah and Mooktear-ool-Moolk were conferred on him by the Nizam after the Rebellion in 1857. He took office in 1853, when he was only twenty-four years of age ; and the ability which he has displayed has been specially marked by his faithful adherence to the British Government. The kingdom of the Nizam was founded by Nizam-ool-Moolk, who, after the death of Aurungzebe, obtained possession of the Mahomedan conquests in the Deccan. At that time the Nizam's dominions were very extensive, but the

Masulipatam districts were ceded in 1759, and in 1766 the Northern Circars; but the old dominions of the Nizam's territories formerly extended from the Nerbudda to Trichinopoly, and from Masulipatam to Bejapore. The area of the country the Nizam now holds is still very considerable, being 95,000 square miles, that is to say, it is larger than England, Wales, and Scotland, by as much as if Wales were reckoned twice over; and the population is about nine millions. The Nizam is the greatest Mahomedan power in India, and it is in the high position of Minister that Sir Salar Jung has filled so long and with so much ability the highest office in that important State. One of the many signs of ability which a man of talent displays is in his habits of doing business. In this respect Sir Salar Jung is remarkable for his close attention and energetic action, and his mode of conducting public business has been often admired by Europeans, and he is looked upon as a model in his administration of public affairs. But the main feature in his character is his beneficence; he has the

strictest regard for truth, and is very straightforward and generous in his behaviour. It will be seen that, with these amiable characteristics, Sir Salar Jung is not a harsh man; he is, indeed, rather too lenient than otherwise. He has, however, been able to introduce many improvements in the administration of the several departments in the State, and the subjects of the Nizam enjoy the blessings of the good government which is thus introduced. It was at the time of the Mutiny that the true character of Sir Salar Jung was exhibited, and with him it rested, to a very great extent, whether the Nizam should be added to the number of the insurgents or not. Sir Salar Jung exercised all his influence in favor of the British Government, and the South of India remained true, chiefly owing to his firmness and high character at that memorable period. In recognition of his great services at that time, Sir Salar Jung received, in 1866, the order of the Star of India, and he is now G.C.S.I., or Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India. Here closes the history of this worthy personage.

SIR DINKAR RAO, K.C.S.I.

Sir Dinkar Rao Raghunath, Rajah Moontazem Bahadoor, K.C.S.I., the Dewan to His Highness Maharajah Scindia, has rendered most conspicuous services both to his own master Scindia, and to the British Government. Colonel R. J. Meade, C.S.I., Agent, Governor-General for Central India, in a letter dated April 1865, writes as follows of Sir Dinkar Rao. He says:—"I can have no hesitation in stating that it is simply impossible, in my opinion, to do adequate justice to Rajah Dinkar Rao's services and admirable character."

Previous to the year 1857, Sir Dinkar Rao displayed very great administrative ability, and he set himself to work to introduce many reforms, make improvements, and to organise and bring into order the different branches and departments of the State. To do this effectually required great tact and management, and Sir Dinkar Rao exhibited a very great knowledge of the people generally of the Gwalior State. After much care and trouble, he succeeded in relieving the country from the system of oppression

and misrule which had made some districts a prey to the most lawless disorder. The change that he wrought in the country by these means created a general feeling of contentment and satisfaction amongst the peopl: nd inspired them with love and respect for the Minister who had so changed their condition. This policy that the Maharajah Scindia and his Government had pursued, bore good fruit at the time of the Mutiny in 1857, for the people remained faithful, and showed no inclination to join the mutinous contingent forces. Sir Dinkar Rao's character and loyalty to his master were of immense importance at that time ; whilst his attachment for, and friendly feeling towards, the British Government, at a time when the power of that Government was at its lowest point of depression, can, says Colonel Meade in a letter, never be forgotten by those who experienced and benefited thereby, or were acquainted therewith. For his services on that occasion Sir Dinkar Rao received, in 1866, from the British Government, the titles he bears. Soon after the Mutiny had been completely suppressed, and

in consequence of the changes that were introduced into the Gwalior State, Sir Dinkar Rao retired into private life, and there is no prospect of his return to occupy a position similar to that which he has filled with so much honor to himself and his country. He will always be regarded as the Dewan, to distinguish him from all others, and he continues to enjoy the esteem and regard of the British Government, and of all those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance, whether privately or officially. Sir Dinkar Rao must be now in the fifty-fourth year of his age, and was for twelve years Minister to Scindia.

THE CHIEF OF KATTYWAR.

One of the most distinguished among the first Mahratta Chiefs was Khunderao Dhabaray, who subsisted his followers in Guzerat and Kattywar about the year 1720. It was a special characteristic of the Mahratta Empire to collect revenue by means of a Moolkgeeree army, which made its collections according to the power of the Government of the day to exact them. The Mahratta was a military power only,

and with its leaders the first object was money. At the beginning of the present century, a very close connection was established between the British Government and the Gaikwar; and in the year 1805 a treaty was made with Anundrao Gaikwar, which was a general defensive alliance between the two powers. Engagements were entered into with the Chiefs of Kattywar, then under the authority of the Gaikwar, chiefly with a view to the better government of the country, and in order to put a stop to the oppression that was universally practised on the inhabitants. Four of these Chiefs were in Bombay, lately, to pay their loyal respects to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—among whom we may notice, first, His Highness the Nawab of Joonaghur, who is a Mahomedan. The State he rules is in the southern district of Kattywar. The present family of Joonaghur was founded in 1735 by Khan Babee, a soldier of fortune, who took the country and expelled the Moghul deputies. The present Nawab is His Highness Mahabut Khan, who succeeded his brother

in 1851. The revenues are about six lakhs a year, of which Rs. 28,394 are paid to the British Government and Rs. 36,413 to the Gaikwar. The Nawab has been assured that any succession to the State in accordance with Mahomedan law will be upheld.

THE JAM OF NOWANUGGUR.

The State of Nowanuggur is in the Holkar district of Kattywar, and the Chief is a Jhaneja Rajpoot. The family emigrated from Kutch to Kattywar in 1542, founded the Nowanuggur family, driving before them the Jetwa family, who formerly possessed the country, but who are now confined to the small State of Porebunder. The present Chief is Jam Veebajee. The revenue amounts to about six lakhs, out of which Rs. 50,112 is paid to the British Government, Rs. 64,183 to the Gaikwar, and to the Nawab of Joonaghur Rs. 4,843.

THE THAKOOR OF BHOWNUGGUR.

The Thakoor of Bhownuggur belongs to the tribe of Gohel Rajpoots, which is said to have settled in the country as far back as

the year 1200 under the Chief Sejek. When Guzerat and Kattywar were divided between the Peishwa and the Gaikwar, the western and larger portion was included in the Gaikwar's share, whilst the eastern and smaller portion fell to the Peishwa, and founded part of the districts of Dunkooda and Gogo, which were afterwards ceded to the British Government. The present Thakoor, Jeswunt Singh, succeeded his brother in 1854. He is allowed the privilege of adoption. The revenues are about eight lakhs, of which Rs. 1,30,000 are paid annually to the British Government.

There are five Chiefs in Kattywar, who exercise first-class jurisdiction; that is, they have power to try for capital offences, without permission from the Political Agent, any person except British subjects. These five Chiefs are Joonaghur, Nowanuggur, Bhownuggur, Dhrangdra, and Porebunder. Besides these five first-class Chiefs, there are eight second-class Chiefs who exercise second-class jurisdiction; that is, they have power to try for capital offences, without permission of the Political Agent,

their own subjects only. These Chiefs are all Thakoors—Morvee, Wakaneer, Palitana, Dhrole, Limree, and Rajcote. Kattywar was at one time famous for its breed of horses, but their reputation is not now so good.

The principal produce of the province is bajree, joar, and wheat ; and cotton is the principal commercial product.

THE MAHARAJAH OF KOLAPORE.

The Rajahs of Kolapore are the representatives of the younger branch of the family of Sevajee, the founder of the Mahratta power, as the Rajahs of Sattara were of the older branch. The Kolapore State is bounded on the north and east by the Sattara Collectorate, on the east and south by the Belgaum Collectorate, and on the west by Sawuntwarree. During the Mutinies, the Rajah of Kolapore remained faithful to the British Government, but his brother Chimma Sahib fell under suspicion, became an exile for life, and died in Sinde about four years ago. The untimely death of the late Rajah whilst on his travels in Europe, will be

remembered, all the circumstances relating thereto being fully narrated in the "Diary" edited by Captain W. West, who was the prince's companion in Europe. The present Rajah is His Highness Sevajee Chatrapate, who is a young and very intelligent-looking prince. The area of the Kolapore State is 3,184 square miles, being about as large as the counties of Lincoln and Middlesex, and the population is 546,156 souls, with a revenue of 10 lakhs of rupees.

PAHLUNPORE.

The Pahlunpore family is Affghan, of the Lohanee tribe. The head of the family obtained the title of Dewan from the Emperor Akbar. Pahlunpore is situated in the north of Guzerat, and the area is 2,384 square miles, the population 178,000 souls, and the revenue about three lakhs. Tribute is paid to the Gaikwar, but not to the British Government. The present Dewan is Zorawur Khan, who succeeded his father in 1854. He rendered good service to the Government in the time of the Mutiny. The town of Pahlunpore, situated on the

route from Neemuch to Deesa, has some trade and manufactures.

THE NAWAB OF RADHUNPORE.

The area of Radhunpore, which is one of the eleven States under the control of the Political Superintendent of Pahlunpore, is 833 square miles, the population 45,000, and the revenue 2½ lakhs. The State pays no tribute to either the Gaikwar or the British Government, but pays black-mail to the neighbouring Kolee tribes. The family was founded about two centuries ago by Bahadoor Khan, who came from Ispahan. Zorawur Khan, the present Nawab, succeeded his father in 1852.

REWA KANTA.

The Rajah of Rajpeepla.—The only Chief in Rewa Kanta who enjoys first-class jurisdiction is the Rajah of Rajpeepla. He has the power to try for capital offences any persons except British subjects. The Chiefs of Rajpeepla maintained their independence till the time of Akbar, who imposed a tribute. On the decline of the Mahomedan

power, the Gaikwar reimposed this tribute ; the sum now paid to Baroda is Rs. 11,650 annually. Gumtheer Singh is the present Rajah. He has two sons, Chutter Singh and Nanaput Singh. The area of Rajpeepla is 4,500 square miles, and the revenue is $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. The town of Rajpeepla is about 40 miles to the south and east of Baroda.

The Rajah of Barrya and the Rajah of Loonawara are second-class Chiefs of Rewa Kanta ; that is, they have power to try for capital offences their own subjects only. The area of Barrya is 1,600 square miles, and the revenue Rs. 75,000. The area of Loonawara is 1,736 square miles, and the revenue Rs. 42,000. There is another second-class Rewa Kanta Chief—the Nawab of Balasinore, who is a Mahomedan. His revenue is Rs. 40,000 a year, and the area of Balasinore is 400 square miles.

THE MAHARAJAH OF EDUR.

The Rajah of Edur and Ahmednuggur is the only important chief in Mahee Kanta, a

territory in Guzerat. The area of Mahee Kanta is 430 square miles, as large as the three counties of Essex, Surrey, and Suffolk; the population is 311,000 souls, subject to numerous petty Chiefs. The entire revenue of Mahee Kanta is a little over five lakhs a year, of which the Gaikwar receives Rs. 1,29,483. The gross revenue of Edur is two lakhs, and these the Maharajah shares with his feudal Chiefs, paying the Gaikwar Rs. 30,000. He maintains an army of 200 men only, but the subordinate Chiefs hold their estate on condition of military service, the quota being three horsemen for every thousand rupees of revenue.

JOWAR.

The Rajah of Jowar, whose State lies at the back of the Northern Konkan, rules a territory which covers 300 square miles, and which yields a revenue of Rs. 25,900; the population is about 8,000 souls. The Rajah has second-class jurisdiction. Vikram Singh is the present Rajah, to which dignity he succeeded in 1872.

SATTARA.

By the treaty of 1819, the possessions of the jagheerdars within the territories of the Rajah of Sattara were guaranteed by the British Government. There are two of these guaranteed jagheerdars, the Punt Sucheo of Bhore and the Punt Pritti Nidhee. The Punt Sucheo pays a tribute of Rs. 5,275 to the British Government; his revenue is Rs. 1,20,000, and the population 110,193 souls. The area of his jaghire is 500 square miles. The Punt Pritti Nidhee has a jaghire of about 350 square miles, a revenue of Rs. 75,000, and a population of 67,767.

SOUTHERN MAHRATTA JAGHEERDARS.

The Jagheerdars of the Southern Mahratta Country consist of three large families—Patwurdhan, the Bhawa, and the Gorpuray. Of these, the Patwurdhan of Sanglee enjoys first-class jurisdiction, having power to try for capital offences any persons except British subjects. The others have second-class jurisdiction, having power to try for capital offences their own subjects only. The revenues of Sanglee are Rs. 6,35,000.

The founder of the Patwurdhan family was Hurri Bhut, a Concanee Brahmin. His three sons rose to military command under the first Peishwa, and received grants of land on condition of military service. Of this family, the following are the representatives of the Chief of Sanglee—the senior and junior branches of the Chiefs of Meeraj, the Chief of Jumkhundee, the Chief of Kurundwar, the elder and two younger. There is one member of the Gorpuray family, Vencutrao, Chief of Moodhole. This family rose to eminence under the Mahomedan Kings of Beejapore. The revenue of his State is about a lakh of rupees.

SURAT.

The Nawab of Sucheen, Seedee of Jinjeera, is of Abyssinian extraction. It is not known when the Abyssinians established themselves on the Western Coast of India, but at a very early date the Seedees were admirals of the Mahomedan fleet, and held jaghires from the King of Beejapore. The State of Sucheen consists of certain territories near Surat. The present Nawab is Seedee Abdool

Kurreem Khan, who receives a revenue of Rs. 85,000. The population is about 13,000 souls. The Nawab enjoys second-class jurisdiction.

The Raja of Bansda, who is of Rajpoot extraction, rules over a State situated near Surat, the history of which is unknown. A tribute of 7,351 rupees is paid to the British Government. The revenues of the State amount to Rs. 61,000, and the population is about 19,000. The present Rajah is Goolab Singh of Dewar, who succeeded in 1861 to the title.

The Rajah of Dhurrumpore also governs an obscure territory near Surat, and is of Rajpoot descent. The revenues are about Rs. 90,000, and the population 15,000 souls. He exercises second-class jurisdiction.

THE CHIEF OF JINJEERA.

The Chief of Jinjeera is also a Seedee. His ancestors were Abyssinians, and were admirals in the Mahomedan fleet. The area of the Jineeira State is 324 square miles, the revenues are Rs. 1,70,000, and

the population about 71,000 souls. The Seedee of Jinjeera has second-class jurisdiction. The present Chief is Seedee Abrahim Khan, in whose favour his father abdicated in 1848.

Here closes the history of all the Indian Rajahs and Chiefs in the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.

The above Rajahs and Chiefs in Bombay united—
To pay their homage to their Royal Prince;
How happy *that day* this welcome invited,
And all assembled to greet the Prince—
Indian Nobles, Chiefs, and all united,
In true loyalty, to their Royal Prince—
No thought can tell the change this brings
To India—her subjects—and Indian kings!

B. C.

ASIATIC

CHAPTER XVII.

On the Baroda State—Its Territories, Revenues, and Population—The late incidents connected with the Poisoning of Colonel R. Phayre, C.B., the late British Resident at the Court of H.H. Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar—The latter's Deposal—And the accession of Syajee Rao to the throne of Baroda.

THE Baroda State, on account of its greater importance, requires separate treatment. The history of this State will, no doubt, be found particularly interesting, by reason of the recent attempt to poison the British Resident, Colonel R. Phayre.

I shall pursue my narrative about this great kingdom, and the various circumstances. I purpose to write the history of this great State from the time of Peelajee Rao, the founder of the dynasty, up to the time

of Mulhar Rao (who succeeded his brother Khundi Rao). I will also give an account of the trial and deposition of Mulhar Rao, and of the accession to the sovereignty of Baroda of a youth named Syajee Rao, a legitimate lineal descendant of the house of Khandeish, which forms a distinct subject from the other Native States in India under British jurisdiction.

Baroda is the largest independent Native State in Western India. It has an area of about 4,399 square miles, and a population of 2,000,225 souls. The average density of the population is, therefore, 454·70 persons per square mile. This density is greater than that of any European State, as Belgium, the most thickly populated country in Europe, counts only 451 souls to the square mile, and England and Wales 389. In Western India the kingdom of Baroda is excelled in density of population only by the adjoining British district of Kaira and Guzerat, which has 501 to the square mile. Nor is it greatly inferior to the plains of Bengal and Behar, where the average number of inhabitants is 530 to the square mile. The possessions

of His Highness the Gaekwar, the sovereign of Baroda, comprise the largest portion of Guzerat, the Umreli Mahals, the province of Ookhamundel in Kattywar, and the Wajpoor Turruf in Khandeish. On all sides, except the seaboard, the Gaekwar's dominions are surrounded by, and interlaced with, British territory. The districts in Guzerat form a great plain watered by the Nerbudda and Mhye rivers, and by several smaller streams; and the black soil is exceedingly fruitful, producing abundant crops of cotton, sugarcane, oil-seeds, and grain. The general aspect of Guzerat about January and February, when the cotton crop matures, presents one almost unbroken sheet of cultivation; and with a soil so highly favoured by nature, and so industriously tilled, the people, if secured from the oppression of a bad Government, ought certainly to be both rich and contented. The country is thickly studded with villages, which are pleasantly shaded by clumps of fine trees, and consist of more substantially-built houses than are commonly seen in India. According to the census of 1872,

the number of villages in the State is 3,007, and of towns, containing 5,000 inhabitants and upwards, 31. Baroda, the capital, situated on the Vishwamitra river, 250 miles north of Bombay, and 60 miles south of Ahmedabad, is a large city, having a population of 150,000 souls. The annual revenue of the Gaekwar is nominally about £1,500,000.

A full sketch of the political history of the State of Baroda, since it came under the dominion of the Gaekwar dynasty, and of the relations maintained between the Gaekwars and the British Government up to the year 1865, the ninth year of the reign of Khundi Rao Gaekwar, will be found in the sixth volume of Aitchison's *Treaties and Engagements with Native States.*

Khundi Rao died rather suddenly on the 28th November 1870, leaving no son, though his younger wife, Jumnabaee, was, at the time of his death, *enceinte.* The next heir to the *gadi* was Khundi Rao's younger brother, Mulhar Rao, the fifth and last surviving son of Maharajah Syajee Rao.

Mulhar Rao had been accused, in 1863, of being concerned in a conspiracy to compass the death of his brother, Khundi Rao, by poison or other means, and was, in consequence, confined as a State-prisoner at Padra, in the Baroda territory, during the remainder of that prince's life ; his associates in the plot, who were in his service, being sentenced to long periods of imprisonment.

On the death of His Highness Khundi Rao, Mulhar Rao was at once summoned from Padra, and installed as his successor by the Resident, with an intimation, however, that his recognition as reigning Gaekwar must be dependent on the sanction of the British Government, which was accorded conditionally on 1st December 1870, it being understood that, if Jumnabaee were delivered of a son, the child should be recognized as Gaekwar. The posthumous child being a girl, Mulhar Rao retained the throne.

During the first two years of Mulhar Rao's reign, while Colonel Barr, and after him Colonel Shortt, held the office of British

Resident, the special attention of the British Government was not drawn to the affairs of this State, though it was known that the Maharajah passed his time in wreaking his vengeance on the adherents of Khundi Rao, and in oppressing the general body of his subjects. But on March 18th, 1873, a new Resident, Colonel R. Phayre, C.B., came into power at Baroda. Shocked at the tales of misgovernment related to him, and the spirit of discontent prevailing amongst the people, Colonel Phayre thought it his duty to prefer certain charges against the Gaekwar and his ministers and favourites. These amounted to nineteen charges under different heads submitted to Government. Upon which the Government appointed Sir Richard Meade, Mr. E. W. Ravenscroft, Colonel Etheridge, Momtaz-ood-Dowlah Nawab Faiz Ali Khan as a Commission, with Mr. T. D. Mackenzie as Secretary, to investigate these complaints of maladministration. The Commission assembled at Baroda, to take evidence, in November 1873, and in March 1874 presented a report, the text of which will be found further on. The Com-

missioners gave it as their opinion that it was "impossible to avoid the conviction, "from the vindictive nature of His High- "ness Mulhar Rao's proceedings towards a "large number of persons, and his violent "and spoliatory treatment of many of them, "as also his measures towards certain "bankers and Inamdars, and the general "character in other important respects of "his administration during the last three "years, that he is not a prince who can be "reasonably expected to introduce, of him- "self, the change of system absolutely "necessary to reform existing abuses, and "to place the administration on a footing "to entitle it to the confidence and support "of the British Government, and the loyal "and willing obedience of all its subjects."

They, therefore, recommended that a man of administrative experience, and with personal and other special qualifications for the post, should be chosen as Minister in the place of the Durbar officials; and that "the "Resident should, for a time at least, be "vested with special authority to intervene, "if necessary, between the Maharajah and

" his Minister," as they were convinced " that effectual measures of reform could " only be introduced through the interven- " tion and under the auspices of the British " Government."

Sir Richard Meade took this report to Calcutta, and on July 25th, 1874, the Viceroy in Council sent a *khureeta* to the Gaekwar, intimating that a period of seventeen months, up to December 31st, 1875, would be allowed to His Highness for effecting certain reforms; and the Resident, Colonel Phayre, was instructed to report progress from time to time. The Gaekwar was also advised to remove from office Nana Khanvelkur, the Minister of the State. With Nana had been associated, from December 1873, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, a Parsee gentleman well known as Secretary to the East India Association; and the Maharajah, disregarding the opposition of the British Resident, now (in August 1874) appointed Mr. Dadabhai sole Minister, and conferred upon Nana Khanvelkur the honorary title of Pritti Nidhee. For the next three months the Resident and the

Minister remained outwardly on friendly terms ; but, while Mr. Dadabhai on his side protested that he was anxious to carry out important reforms, but was thwarted by the unwillingness of the Resident to co-operate cordially with him, Colonel Phayre maintained that the Minister, if sincere in his professions, had no real power, the old party at court retaining the favor of the Maharajah, and that any changes introduced by him would be but a mockery of reform. This antagonism culminated, on November 2nd, 1874, in two despatches, one being a report from Colonel Phayre to the Government of India on the state of affairs, and the other a *khureeta* from the Maharajah, written by the Minister, in which the Viceroy in Council was entreated to remove from Baroda so impracticable an officer as Colonel Phayre. Although no mention was made of the matter in the *khureeta*, the Resident had shortly before given deadly offence to the Gaekwar, by refusing to recognize as heir to the *gadee* a child born to him by a woman named Luxmeebai, whom His Highness had married in the previous May,

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she being at that time his kept-mistress, and the reputed wife of another man. On the 5th of November, Colonel Phayre further irritated the Gaekwar by expostulating with him privately on the attempts made by agents of His Highness to bribe high officials at Bombay, in order to secure the recognition of Luxmeebai's child. Four days afterwards, on the 9th of November, an attempt was made to poison Colonel Phayre by putting arsenic into his *sherbet.* The Colonel at once reported the circumstance to Government, and tried to find out the authors of the crime. He was pursuing this investigation when, on the 16th of November, he received a letter from the Governor of Bombay, informing him that the Viceroy thought he should resign the appointment of Resident, as he was personally obnoxious to the Gaekwar, but leaving him to exercise his own discretion in the matter. Colonel Phayre refused to tender his resignation ; and, on the 25th of November, Lord Northbrook wrote to the Maharajah saying that he had removed Colonel Phayre, and deputed Sir Lewis Pelly to Baroda as

Agent to the Governor-General and Special Commissioner. The reason assigned to the Colonel himself for this supersession was that he had thoroughly "misunderstood the "spirit of the instructions, both of the "Government of India and the Government "of Bombay;" and that "the duties of Resi- "dent could no longer be entrusted to him "with the reasonable prospect of satisfactory "result."

Sir Lewis Pelly arrived at Baroda on the 30th of November, up to which time the efforts of Colonel Phayre to trace his would-be assassins had completely failed.

Sir Lewis Pelly took office with a fixed intention to co-operate heartily with the Gaikwar's Minister in carrying out reforms; but, elated by their triumph over Colonel Phayre, the court party showed no anxiety to effect any real improvement; the discontent of all classes of Mulhar Rao's subjects increased from day to day, till the State trembled on the verge of anarchy, and, within a month from Colonel Phayre's departure, the Minister, Mr. Dadabhai

Naoroji, finding himself quite helpless, resigned. Meanwhile, the detective police, under Mr. Souter, C.S.I., Commissioner of Police at Bombay, had been diligently trying to find a clue to the origin of the attempt to poison ; and on the 16th of December they heard, from the driver of a hack-bullock-shigram in the camp bazar, that he had on one occasion driven an *ayah* from the Residency to the Gaekwar's palace in the city, at a late hour of the night. Mrs. Phayre's *ayah* was then examined, and made a confession ; and the rest of the Residency servants having been questioned, suspicion fell on Rowjee-bin-Rama, the havildar of peons, as the one most likely to have administered the poison. Rowjee was taken into custody on the 22nd of December, and the same evening, having received a promise of pardon, he confessed to Mr. Souter that he had administered the poison at the instigation of His Highness the Gaekwar. In consequence of statements made by Rowjee, Nursoo, the jemadar of peons, was arrested on the 23rd, and the following morning he also made an uncondi-

tional confession corroborating Rowjee's, and persisted in it even after Sir Lewis Pelly told him he would not be pardoned. (The story of these two men was, it may here be mentioned, confirmed a month afterwards by the confession of Damodhur Punt, the Gaekwar's private secretary.) The case having now become very serious, the depositions were, on the 30th December, laid before the Advocate-General of Bombay, who gave it as his opinion that "a strong *primâ facie* "case of abetment of an attempt to murder" had been made out against the Gaekwar. The Viceroy, on receiving, through Sir Lewis Pelly, a report to this effect, summoned Mr. Souter to Calcutta, where he arrived on the night of the 11th of January; and, three days afterwards, a proclamation was issued to the effect "that His Highness "Mulhar Rao Gaekwar had instigated the "attempt to administer poison to Colonel "Phayre, late British Resident at the Court "of Baroda," &c.

Acting upon instructions telegraphed from Calcutta, Sir Lewis Pelly on the same day arrested the Gaekwar, who made no

resistance, and lodged him in a house in the British camp at Baroda to await his trial. The British garrison having been previously reinforced, by way of precaution, with a battery of artillery and a wing of European infantry from Bombay, and a regiment of native infantry from Ahmedabad, Sir Lewis Pelly seized the city of Baroda, and took the administration of the government entirely into his own hands. The Gaekwar's troops showed no disposition to fight for their master, and were not even disarmed. Some of the Sirdars were annoyed at the interference of the British Government; but the population of Baroda generally acquiesced in the transfer of power from the Gaekwar to the Viceroy's Agent; and all signs of discontent quickly disappeared. But the excitement among the Mahrattas of Western India, as soon as it was known that the Gaekwar had been suspended from the exercise of sovereign power, became intense; and Poona, in particular, the old capital of the Peishwas, showed the keenest sympathy with Mulhar Rao. The Anglo-Indian Press, in its comments upon the

Viceroy's proclamation, had expressed doubts of the expediency of appointing a Commission of Inquiry, and had strongly advocated annexation ; and the priestly class was moved at the prospect of the absorption into the British Empire of a Native State noted for its charities to Brahmins, while the Sirdars trembled for the loss of the pensions and other advantages secured to them by their relations at Baroda. Poona, therefore, became the head-quarters of a vehement agitation in behalf of Mulhar Rao—an agitation not limited to processions to the temples and prayers to the gods, but modernized by the educated natives into the form of public meetings and memorials to the Viceroy, praying that at all events the Commission of Inquiry might be equally composed of natives and Europeans. The excitement rapidly spread among all sections of the native community, many of the Parsees even catching the infection ; and the cause of Mulhar Rao was soon identified with that of the subject-races of the country. Meanwhile, the Gaekwar had employed legal

advisers, who, besides engaging Serjeant Ballantine to come out and defend their client, used every art to inflame public feeling against the Government of India. Whether yielding to the pressure put upon it, or merely carrying out its original intention, that Government determined to constitute a Commission of three European and three native members. Maharajah Holkar was at first asked to sit with Maharajahs Scindia and Jeypore; but, as he declined, Sir Dinkar Rao was nominated; and on the 15th of February another proclamation was issued:—"That an "attempt having been made at Baroda to "poison Colonel Phayre, C.B., the late "British Resident at the court of His "Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, and strong "suspicion resting on His Highness being "the instigator of the crime, the Viceroy "and Governor-General of India in Council "has appointed the Hon'ble Sir Richard "Couch, His Highness the Maharajah of "Gwalior, His Highness the Maharajah of "Jeypore, Colonel Sir Richard John "Meade,—Rajah Sir Dinkar Rao, and Phillip

" Sandys Melvill, Commissioners, for inquir-
" ing into and reporting on the case," &c.

The Commission met at Baroda on the 23rd of February, and did not conclude its inquiry, which was held in open court with all the form and ceremony of a public trial, till the 17th of March. The Commissioners then came down to Bombay to consider their report, and, as the European and native Commissioners were hopelessly at variance as to the trustworthiness of the evidence against the Gaekwar, Sir Richard Couch, Sir Richard Meade, and Mr. Melvill drew up a joint report, stating that all the charges had been proved, while Maharajahs Scindia and Jeypore and Sir Dinkar Rao sent in separate reports, all, however, being, in substance, to the effect that the charge of instigating the attempt to poison had not been proved. Mr. Jardine, Secretary to the Commission, proceeded to Simla with the reports, and reached that place on the 4th of April ; but it was not till three weeks afterwards that the Government of India announced its decision. The delay is generally attributed to a difference of opinion

between the Viceroy in Council and the Home Government, the former wishing to treat Mulhar Rao as a convicted criminal, while the latter—influenced, no doubt, to a great extent, by the outcry of the *Times* and other London papers, which, for some inexplicable reason, had ranged themselves on the side of the defence before even waiting to see reports of the case for the prosecution—wished to avoid taking a course which would be sure to provoke hostile criticism in England. The traces of this conflict of opinion are clearly visible in the official papers finally published ; for, while the Government of India in its resolution had no hesitation in declaring that the guilt of the Gaekwar had been established, Her Majesty's Government refused to assume that the case had been proved, and, brushing aside all the proceedings of the Commission, deposed Mulhar Rao on the ground of notorious misconduct and unfitness to reign : and thus he was deposed from the sovereignty of the Baroda State—and Sir T. Mahadeo Rao, K.C.S.I., was appointed to administer the State as Prime Minister.

On the evening of April 22nd the Gaekwar was informed by Sir Richard Meade, who had succeeded Sir Lewis Pelly as Agent at Baroda on April 10th, that his deposition had been decreed, and that he must prepare for a long journey. His Highness wept and entreated, but finally submitted, and was conducted to a special train, in which he was speedily and secretly conveyed to Madras, where he now remains a State prisoner for the whole term of his life.

> **Though herein we see the folly of the great,**
> **But even kings and nobles must needs meet their fate!**

A suitable person from the Khandeish line has been selected, and approved of by the Government of India, as having the best title to the succession to the throne of Baroda. And accordingly Syajee Rao, a youth only ten years old, has succeeded to the sovereignty of Baroda. And as he is still a minor, the administration of the State is conducted by the present Prime Minister, Mahadeo Rao, under instructions from the Governor-General's Agent and Special Commissioner at Baroda. And the management of affairs at Baroda is now going on well and prosperously.

CHAPTER XVIII.

On Ancient India—The pre-historic period, shewing the Ruins of Towns, Ancient Buildings, Hindoo Temples and Mahomedan Mosques, Tombs, &c.

THE rise and progress of British India is, as a matter of course, for the last two centuries, closely identified with that of the East India Company, the history of which may be divided into four periods. During the first fourteen years its members were, in a great measure, dependent. In the following ninety-five years, although it had a common capital, its operations were confined by the superiority of the Dutch in the Indian seas, by the civil wars at home, and particularly by the calling in question of its exclusive privileges, which were merely a royal and not a parliamentary authority, but confined to mere commercial transactions ;

and, finally, during the subsequent seventy years, its political power was developed.

In the History of India by Henry Beveridge, various illustrations are given in maps and pictures of countries, towns, ancient buildings, Mahomedan mosques, Hindoo temples, and tombs of the celebrated heroes of the time—all which are carefully preserved by the British as representations and living monuments of antiquity.

The following is a precise account of them as they stand at present in history:—

Description of Tyre.—Tyre, a seaport of Syria, which now derives its only importance from its occupying the site of the most celebrated commercial city of antiquity. It had its original site on the mainland, stretching along the Syrian coast, from the mouth of the Leontes to the headland of Rastel-ain, a distance from north to south of about seven miles. Immediately opposite to the centre of the town, and separated from it by a strait about 1,200 yards, or two-thirds of a mile, wide, was an island

nearly three miles in circuit. The features of the locality had since undergone a remarkable change. What was once an island is now a peninsula. Other changes have taken place, and there is reason to believe that the island had at one time a larger extent than now appears. In fact, the encroachment of the sea is established by the appearance of the walls, which are now covered by a considerable depth of water, but are supposed to have been originally built on the Western shore.

Of the present condition of Tyre it is unnecessary to say more than that it is little better than a fishing-village, composed of wretched hovels huddled together in narrow, crooked, and filthy streets.

AJMERE, the capital of which is at the foot of a high mountain, was occasionally the residence of the Emperor Jehangeer, who was here visited, in 1616, by Sir Thomas Roe, the English ambassador. In 1818 it was ceded to the British, and was then in a ruinous state, from which, however, it soon recovered, and is now one of the

handsomest cities in British India. On the summit of the hill in the back ground stands a fortress named Taraghur, nearly two miles in circumference, capable of containing 1,200 men, but fast going to decay.

Kutb Minar, Delhi.—The Kutb Minar is a column of victory, built by Kutb-u-din, to celebrate his conquest of the Hindoos. It is 48 feet 4 inches in diameter at the base, and, when measured in 1794, was 242 feet in height. The base, which is circular, forms a polygon of 27 sides, and there are four balconies running round the pillar.

Ruins of Goor.—Taking the extent of the ruins of Goor at the most reasonable calculation, it is not less than fifteen miles in length (extending along the old bank of the Ganges), and from two to three in breadth. Several villages stand on part of its site, the remainder is either covered with thick forest, the habitations of tigers and other beasts of prey, or become arable land, whose soil is chiefly composed of brick-dust. The principal ruins are a mosque, lined with black marble elaborately wrought, and

two gates of the citadel, which are strikingly grand and lofty. These fabrics, and some few others, appear to owe their duration to the nature of their materials, which are less marketable, and more difficult to separate, than those of the ordinary brick-buildings, which have been, and continue to be, an article of merchandise, and are transported to Moorshedabad, Malda, and other places for building purposes. As the capital of Bengal and Behar united under one Government, Goor was most advantageously situated, occupying, as it did, an almost central position with respect to the populous parts of those provinces, and standing near the junction of the principal rivers which together make up that extraordinary system of inland navigation for which those provinces are famed.

Tower of Victory, Chittoor.—The Keerut Khum, or Tower of Victory, was erected in 1439, to commemorate a victory over the combined armies of Malwa and Guzerat by Rana Khumbo, who reigned in Marwar, 1418-68. It stands on a terrace 42 feet square : it is 172 feet in height ;

and each of the four faces is at the base 35 feet in length. There are nine stories, and on the summit is a copula. The whole is one mass of the most elaborate sculpture, executed in white marble, and representing various subjects of Hindoo mythology.

GATES OF SAMNATH.—Fergusson, in his *Handbook of Architecture*, says that "these gates are *not* of sandal-wood, but of the wood of the deodar pine tree; therefore, the tradition of their having been the gates of the temple at Samnath is wrong. The decorations bear no resemblance to Hindoo work; and as the ornaments are similar to those of the mosque of E'bn Touloun at Cairo, they show the same date of construction, and that the same style of ornamentation was used at the extreme ends of the Moslem Empire."

MAHMOOD'S PILLARS, GHUZNEE.—The two minars or pillars outside the city of Ghuznee were erected, as appears from inscriptions in Kufic characters upon them, the one nearest the village of Rozak by Mahmood, the other (nearest Ghuznee) by

Masaood, son of Mahmood. The inscription on Mahmood's pillar is as follows :—"In the name of God, the most merciful the high and mighty Sultan, the Melic of Islam, the right arm of the State, trustee of the faith, the victory crowned, the patron of Moslems, the aid of the destitute, the munificence endowed Mahmood (may God glorify his testimony), son of Sabacktageen, the champion of champions, the Emir of Moslems, ordered the construction of this lofty of loftiest of monuments ; and of certainty it has been happily and prosperously completed."

Inscription on the Exterior of Sultan Mahmood's Tomb.—"Mahamood, the apostle of God, whom he sent with instruction and the true faith, that he might exalt it above all other creeds, even though unbelievers be adverse thereto. Dominion both past and future is of God, and in *that* day the Faithful shall rejoice in the aid of the Lord." The inscription, in Kufic characters, on the sarcophagus of Mahmood's tomb is to the following effect :—"May there be forgiveness of God, upon him who

is the great lord, the noble Nizam-u-din Abul Casim Mahmood, the son of Sebek-tegin. May God have mercy upon him."

Interior of Taj Mahal at Agra.—"The light to the central apartment of this edifice is admitted only through double screens of white marble trellis-work, of the most exquisite design; one on the outer, and one on the inner, face of the walls. In our climate it would produce nearly complete darkness; but in India, and in a building wholly composed of white marble, this was required to temper the glare that otherwise would have been intolerable. As it is, no words can express the chastened beauty of that central chamber seen in the soft gloom of the subdued light that reaches it through the distant and half-closed opening that surround it."—*Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture.*

"Tavernier saw this building begun and finished, and tells us it occupied 20,000 men for twenty-two years. The mausoleum, and all the buildings that appertain to it, cost 3,17,48,026 (three crore seventeen lakhs

forty-eight thousand and twenty-six rupees), or £3,174,802 sterling."

On the Queen's tombstone are passages from the Koran, amidst wreaths of flowers ; on her husband's only his name and death, and mosaic of flowers. The tombs are within a screen of trillis-work of white marble, a *chef-d'œuvre* of elegance of Indian art.

Ruins at Canouj.—This once magnificent city has long since fallen into decay. Its ruins are now surrounded with jungle, and once formed a retreat for desperadoes of all kinds.

Akber's Tombstone at Secundra.—"The tomb of Akber at Secundra, near Delhi, is, like all his buildings and doings, exceptional, and unlike those of any of his race, but still of great magnificence. The tomb is pyramidal in external form. The outer or lower terrace is 320 feet square by 30 feet in height, and its architecture is bold and massive. On this terrace stands another far more ornate, measuring 186 feet on each side, and 14 feet 9 inches in height. A

third and a fourth of similar design, and respectively 15 feet 2 inches and 14 feet 6 inches high, stand on this—all this being of red sandstone. Within and above the last is a white marble enclosure 157 feet each way, or externally, just half the length of the lowest terrace. The outer wall of this is entirely composed of marble trillis-work of the most beautiful patterns. Inside, it is surrounded by a colonnade of the same material. In the centre of this cloister, on a raised platform, is the tombstone of the founder, a splendid piece of the most beautiful arabesque tracery. This, however, is not the true burial-place ; but the mortal remains of this great king repose under a far plainer tombstone, in a vaulted chamber in the basement, 35 feet square, exactly under the simulated tomb that adorns the summit of the mausoleum."—*Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture.*

CHALEES SITOON, ALLAHABAD.—" The most beautiful thing (at Allahabad) was the pavilion of the Chalees Sitoon, or forty pillars, so called from having that number on the principal floor, disposed in two concen-

tric octagonal ranges : one internal, of sixteen pillars ; the other outside, of twenty-four ; above this, supported by the inner colonnade, was an upper range of pillars crowned by a dome. This building has entirely disappeared, its materials being wanted to repair the fortifications."—*Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture.*

The description given above of the different towns, buildings, temples, &c.—the architecture, wealth, and grandeur of antiquity—will, no doubt, rouse some to the recollection of former days..

Like these, many are now mouldering in the dust,
Many noble heroes, who died for India's conquest.

CHAPTER XIX.

On the Educational System.

WHAT chiefly distinguishes the British Government of India from every other nation of conquerors, is this, that the principles by which they are guided in the management of the conquered country shew that the first object of the ruling power is the welfare of the subject people, and not the aggrandizement of self. Despite many exceptions and many drawbacks, this noble principle has been firmly adhered to, grasped by the British rulers of India, and has been the life-blood of their policy.

Starting from this point of view, it would be ungrateful to ignore or deny the great efforts that have been already made, and the great results that have been already achieved, in the cause of the advancement

of native education. Especially we must not forget that, when the problem was first taken into hand, there were formidable objections to be overcome ; there were uncertain experiments to be hazarded. The first forty years of the British reign may be characterized as years of groping and stumbling in the dark. In the year 1854, however, it was thought that the time had arrived for a safe induction of all principles of education, and the inauguration of a system founded upon them for the establishment of education in all its branches. When a departmental organization for public instruction, without altogether discarding the aid and advice of the amateur boards and councils which had till then reigned. It propounded a regularly developing series of elementary schools, high schools, and colleges, and crowned the whole edifice with a university. A more complete and richly endowed set of schools and colleges never existed.

The progress which has been already made, and the satisfactory state of most of the schools and colleges already established

in the Bombay Presidency, particularly that of the institutions of the higher classes of education, may well be the cause of honest pride and self-gratulation to the benefactors of India. In most cases these educational systems are entirely supported at the cost of the Government, in others the most adequate means are supplied for setting on foot every plan to forward the system in every way that can be desired; and *all* that was necessary to be done has been done to diffuse education through India, with the view of improving the morals of the people, and making their intellectual culture their glory. So that, if we compare the noon-tide splendour of knowledge in which they now rejoice, with the deep night of ignorance where they wandered aimlessly in bygone days, it may with truth be said of the natives of India that they now possess all that entitles them to be called human beings. They themselves acknowledge that, had it not been for the British, and their admirable administration of India that has wrought this wondrous change, the descendants of a generation such as their forefathers were,

would never have become the enlightened people they are now.

Thanks to God that we are now an enlightened nation!
Under the happy rule of the British administration.

I will here make a few remarks on the method of education which obtains among the lower classes of Bombay.

It is a fact as deplorable as it is well-known, that, in ordinary petty schools, where all castes and classes of youth are mixed up together, to pick up whatever scraps of knowledge they can, the master is generally one who, finding himself unfit for any profession, as a last resource sets up a school. I have been told that even tailors and barbers have been transformed into school-masters; and, more surprising still, that they have made fortunes in their new profession.

Can we believe we are in a civilized country—can it be conceived that we have any regard for posterity when such men are permitted to form the morals of those dear little ones who may one day be the guardians of the liberties of their country;

and who may serve as the honour and bulwark of their aged parents ? The care of our children should be our chief study and attention. And it is here that the attention of the Government is called for to check the caprice of the ignorant as to the disposal of their children *in this particular.* For the State to take charge of all its chidren, might perhaps be inconvenient ; but surely it might cast an eye to their instructors.

Of all professions, I know not one more useful than the school-master's ; yet none where talents and labour are so ill-rewarded ! But while I am for rewarding the deserving, I would dismiss those utterly unqualified for that employment.

Do we with a lavish hand heap benefits on those who instruct ourselves, and shall we deny subsistence to those who instruct our children? Every member of society should be paid in proportion to his deserts ; and I make bold to say that, in fact, school-masters are even more necessary than clergymen, *or any spiritual guide, Christian*

or of any other religion, as our children stand more in need of instruction than ourselves.

Some send their children, as I have already observed, to the most ignorant set of men that can be imagined, some poor needy animal, little superior to a footman in England. This honour, however, is conferred on him merely from his being of a complying disposition, and making the children fond of him. Little or nothing of morality can be expected from those educated in such schools, and under such masters.

Plus occidit gula quam gladius.

And now, having come thus far, perhaps you will think me some pedagogue, willing, by a well-timed puff, to increase the reputation of his own school; but such is not the case. The regard I have for society, for those tender minds whose care should be the main object of a parent, is the only motive I have for offering my remarks, in order to remedy some defects which have

crept into the present system of school education. Thus

> The just labours eagerly to attain
> What the unjust cares little to maintain!

According to a clause introduced in a Bill brought into Parliament in 1868 by Sir S. Northcote and Sir James Fergusson, which was passed, and now forms a portion of the 33 Victoria, Chapter III., the natives of India are entitled to hold covenanted Civil Service appointments ; and hence it becomes the more necessary that they should be well educated, and well trained up into the English language, laws, &c.—assured that the clause cannot but be productive of great good to the natives of India by preparing them for their future political elevation, to a due share in the administration of their own country, and to England by assuring India of the honesty of purpose and pure motives of its English rulers, and thereby deepening and strengthening loyalty to the British rule.

CHAPTER XX.

On Indian Agricultural Labour—and the Contentment of a Rural Life.

HAVING said enough about the native Rajahs, the nobles of India, and their doings, let us now cast a glance at life and industrial labour of our humble Indian peasants—who water and till the ground that it may produce for us the grain, vegetable, and fruits we so plentifully enjoy; according to the increase it pleaseth God to give them in their season.

The husbandman rises with the early dawn; washes, and says a prayer; then sets out with his cattle to his distant field. After an hour or two, he eats some remnants of his yesterday's fare for breakfast, and goes on with his labour till noon, when his wife brings out his hot dinner; he eats it by a brook or under a tree, talks and sleeps

till two o'clock, while his cattle also feed and repose. From two till sunset he labours again ; then drives his cattle home, feeds them, bathes, eats his supper, takes a smoke, and spends the rest of the evening as pleasantly as he can with his family, or pays his neighbours a visit. The women fetch water, grind the corn, cook, and do the household work, besides spinning, and other occupations ; and *such* is the *toil* and *contentment* of a rural life, that even the great may justly envy it !

> Labour is the peasant's wealth ;
> Labour 'tis that gives man health.

It entirely depends on the nature of the soil and climate whether agricultural labour is troublesome or otherwise. A light plough, which the peasant carries on his shoulder to the field, is sufficient, with the help of two small oxen, to enable the husbandman to make a shallow furrow in the surface, in which to deposit the grain. Sowing is often performed by a sort of drill, which sheds the seed through five or six hollow canes ; and a board, on which a man stands, serves for a harrow. A hoe, a

mattock, and a few other articles complete the implements of husbandry. Reaping is performed with the sickle: the grain is trodden out by cattle, brought home in carts, and kept in large pits under-ground. The fields, though the bounds of each are carefully marked, are generally unenclosed; and nothing interrupts their continuity, except occasional varieties in the crops.

But although Indian agriculture has such a character of simplicity, there are some peculiarities in it which call forth certain sorts of skill and industry not required elsewhere, and there are some descriptions of cultivation to which the former character does not at all apply.

The summer harvest is sufficiently watered by the rains, but a great part of the winter crop requires artificial irrigation. This is afforded by rivers, brooks, and ponds; but chiefly by wells. In the best parts of the country there is a well in every field, from which water is conveyed in channels, and received in little beds, divided by low ridges of earth. It is raised by oxen

in a large bucket, or rather *bag*, of pliant leather, which has often an ingenious contrivance by which it empties itself when drawn up.

In some soils it is necessary, every three or four years, to eradicate the weeds by deep ploughing, which is done with a heavy plough, drawn by buffaloes, at a season when the ground is saturated with moisture. Manure is little used for general cultivation, but is required in large quantities for sugarcane, and many other sorts of produce. Many sorts also require to be fenced and protected from encroachments; and are sometimes surrounded by mud walls, but usually by high impenetrable hedges of cactus, euphorbium, aloe, and other strong prickly plants, as well as by other thorny bushes and creepers.

Another great labour is to scare way the flocks of birds, which devour a great part of the harvest in spite of all precautions. Scarecrows have some effect, but the chief dependence is on a man, who stands on a high wooden stage overlooking the field,

shouting, and throwing stones from a sling, which is so contrived as to make a loud, cracking noise at every discharge.

These native peasants understand rotation of crops, though their almost inexhaustible soil renders it often unnecessary. They class the soil with great minuteness, and are well informed about the produce for which each is best, and the mode of cultivation it requires; but they have the injudicious practice of mixing different kinds of grain in one and the same field, sometimes to come up together, sometimes in succession.

These remarks are, however, liable only to exceptions, from varieties in different parts of India; particularly in the rice countries, as Bengal and the Coast of Coromandel, they are almost inapplicable. In those places, all sorts of grain are sown separately, and reaped separately; rice is allowed to be completely flooded, and transplanted at a certain stage, and is a particularly laborious and disagreeable sort of cultivation; which, nevertheless, is accom-

plished with due diligence and industry, and it is to the labour of these good peasants we are indebted for the fine rice, and other fine grain, and all the varieties of earth produce we have in such great abundance in our Indian markets.

The great, 'tis true, can charm the electing tribe,
The bard may supplicate, but cannot bribe;
Judg'd by those whose voices ne'er were sold,
They feel no want of ill-persuading gold;
But trust to industry, and labour so true,
And eat their coarse fare as contentedly as you!

B. C.

CHAPTER XXI.

On the deplorable aspect under the present system of Administration in India.

WHILE speaking of the British administration of modern times in India, let us examine it closely, and we shall see what a terrible contrast it is with former times, and then we shall be able to treat the subject in a becoming manner with unassuming simplicity.

Under the present system of administration, India is suffering seriously in several ways, and is sinking into poverty. The result of capital labour, and the produce of India, taken *all in all*, as far back as 1870, shew a deplorable deficit in the different branches of finance ; so much so, that it would be clear, from a comparison, there is hardly enough to meet the exigencies of the country. Moreover, the poor labouring

class do not get the full share of the average production. The high and middle classes get a much larger share, while the poorer class gets a much smaller one. Such appears to be the present condition of the masses of India. The imports compared with the exports shew a material deficit. Calculating from the year 1858 to 1870, nothing appears to advantage on our side.

Looking to the administration of India some thirty or forty years back, we find a vast difference in the internal effects, and at *that time* India was quite different from what it is now in every respect, touching the wealth and prosperity of the country, though it was not in its outward appearance quite so grand as at present—when there were none of the beautiful buildings for which the city of Bombay is now famous, no railways, no electric telegraph, no steam navigation, no Vehar water, no gas-light, no Municipal and other taxes to drain and oppress the people, as at present. The people were then content and happy and well-to-do, and business went on quietly, and trade smoothly, and India

might be said to have been *then* in the height of prosperity. But now, with all her additions and improvements, India is sinking into poverty, and the cry of distress is heard from her people. Yes, as matters stand at present, India must be thankful for the Railway loan; for in reality that, though but a loan (with the profits during the American War), has revived the country in a measure. But what is this in comparison with the immense deficit visible throughout, and the effect of which is that the people are brought down to their present low condition? The produce of the country, exported from sheer necessity, would have brought suitable returns to native wants, or would have remained in the country—in either case, to the benefit of the produce or industry of India, rather than being drained away from it.

The effect of this deficit, however, was not equally felt by the sister presidencies; Bengal appears to have suffered less than the others.

In shewing the vast drain from India, and

the consequent impoverishment the country is suffering, it must be observed that, for a certain portion of it, they have to thank their own blindness to their national interests, but for a large portion the cause was the present system and policy of Indian administration ; and hence it results that India, with all her boasted gains, has not even a sufficiency to support her absolute wants —saving, or adding to the capital, being altogether out of the question. Moreover, not only is there no saving at the present rate of production, but there is actual continuous yearly abstraction from this scanty production. The result is an additional evil consequence in the possibility of labour deteriorating continuously, for industry is limited by capital—"so the candle burns at both ends"—capital going on diminishing on the one hand, and on the other labour thereby becoming less capable to produce as much as before. And it is clear that industry cannot be employed to any greater extent than there is capital to invest.

If these principles had been fairly borne in mind, and the element of the drain from

India fairly considered, the gradual impoverishment of the country might, to a certain, extent have been easily averted.

Again, there *is a triple evil* under the present system of administration very desirable to be looked into—loss of wealth, wisdom, and work to India! Whether the power of education which the British rulers are raising with the glorious object of promoting the welfare of the people of India, and which is day by day increasing, shall be a bulwark or weakness hereafter to the British rule, is a question of great importance. As matters stand at present, in the words of Sir Bartle Frere—"And "now, wherever I go, I find the best "exponents of the policy of the English "Government, and the most able coadjutors "in adjusting that policy to the peculiari-"ties of the natives of India, among "the ranks of the educated natives." But what comes of this?—Every European employed beyond absolute necessity is an obstacle in the way of a native capable of filling the same position, who thus finds himself overlooked in his own country, and

thus all the talent and nobility of intellect and soul, which nature gives to every country, is to India a mere possession, but of no real profit to either the possessor or the benevolent giver of it.

Such the grievances of the present discontented time,
Such the hardships of the people in this Indian clime,
Such the injustice prevailing in the land—
That poverty has crept in and taken its stand.

B. C.

CHAPTER XXII.

CONCLUSION.

On the Visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India.

It is indeed pleasing to say a few words touching the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this Indian clime, and I will make this the concluding topic of my narrative.

Now that His Royal Highness has completed his travels round British India, and has seen the varieties of Indian scenery and Indian life, and all things connected with it and its administration, it must no doubt afford him, as well his numerous subjects, a common satisfaction.

Moreover, from all that has been done, the people of India will now understand

that this Royal visit to India was not with the object of self-enjoyment, but for the purpose of seeing the empire, and having a personal proof of the loyalty of the British subjects, that he may be the better able to appreciate the welfare of the people of this great Eastern dominion. And indeed it is a source of very great satisfaction and joy *to all* to see that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has happily concluded his travels in health and prosperity ; and now leaves India in possession of the noblest specimen of British policy and generosity, and when he returns he will carry home with him India's blessings, and all his loyal subjects' best wishes. We have heard and read about those virtues in the Royal parent of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales so largely displayed in England, which made his life a model worthy of being transmitted to posterity, and we have now in his Royal son all the desirable qualities, and the truest object of admiration and praise.

I must be pardoned for this short eulogy to the memory of one so good and so great, who, while still living, ever detested to

receive anything that wore the appearance of praise. May God bless the memory of so Royal a personage, and all the Royal Family of England !

THE END.

A CONCLUDING APOLOGY.

A PURE sense of love and gratitude has prompted me to this historical account of India, and the various events, improvements, and innovations connected with the British administration which has done so much good to the country. The dictates of an honest and clear conscience must plead for me, if I have said aught in this little work which gives offence. Assured, as I am, that God will bless honest endeavours, I rest my labour upon this sure foundation for success, and pray God speed my endeavours. I have learnt from experience that all things at first sight appear difficult and tedious of perception, but as we persevere, we overcome the difficulty ; and what at first seemed tedious, gradually

becomes easy and practicable. Such has been the case in compiling this history of facts within the sphere of my humble knowledge and acquirements; and I have given it just as it occurred to me, in the same simple strain and style. I have been helped by circumstances; and I feel assured that there are many things which I have brought forward in my historical views of the past and the present on British administration in India, that will be generously appreciated by the unprejudiced, as being worthy of the Author of such; my sole and only object being simply to explore facts, nothing but facts, without any colouring or desire to please; and to show everything in its proper light, and give it due credit. Nothing *beyond*, or *farther than this*, has led me to venture upon this excursion,—in the task I have undertaken to perform with my feeble pen, and with ideas so faint. I shall, however, claim the reward of being in some measure useful in it, as being one of the first who have attempted a history of the kind and brought it prominently forward before the public—for the welfare of society

—as a tribute of gratitude and respect to the Government, of which I am a loyal subject and dependant ; and I faithfully and most confidently hope that my object in this particular will be fully realized by me, and duly appreciated by my countrymen, to whose approval I humbly submit these researches, which I have completed with all diligence and labour.

B. C.

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